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LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 27, 1867.

[ONE PENNY.]

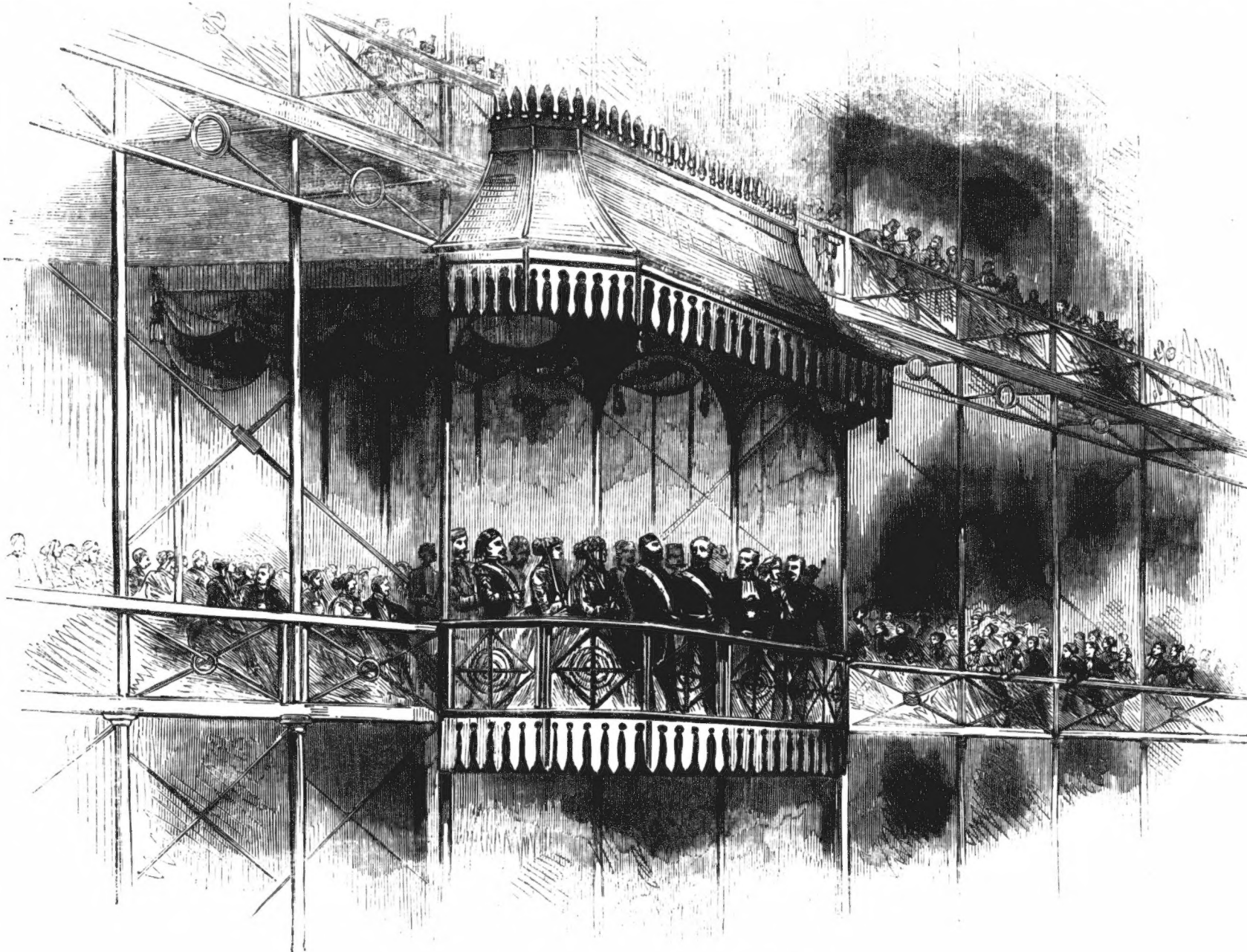
THE SULTAN AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

THE musical festival given at the Crystal Palace by Royal command, in honour of the Sultan attracted a large attendance, and passed off with great éclat. Exactly opposite the Handel orchestra a State box, in the form of a proscenium, was erected for the accommodation of the Imperial and Royal visitors. It was divided into three compartments, and was tastefully decorated in crimson and gold. In front of this costly structure was a parterre of rare and bright flowers, arranged with due regard to harmony of colours. The musical entertainment consisted of an operatic concert in two parts, supported by the entire company of Her Majesty's Theatre, as well as by two military bands, the excellent band of the Crystal Palace Company, and contingents from all the most celebrated choral societies and choirs in London. The first part of the concert began at half-past four, and was under the direction of Signor Arditì and Mr. Manns. This portion of the con-

cert was performed in excellent style, but only for the gratification of the public at large, the great guests of the day not having as yet arrived. It was near seven o'clock before the booming of the Royal salute conveyed the glad intelligence of their approach.

Our illustration represents the Sultan and his suite at the Crystal Palace. The Sultan was accompanied by the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Cambridge, and a number of his suite. The illustrious party drove over from Woolwich, and entered the Palace park by the Penge gate. As they drove round the grounds, amid the hearty cheers of the spectators, the fountains were set playing with dazzling effect, and the Sultan seemed much impressed by the beauty and brilliancy of the scene. On alighting they were escorted down the nave, through some of the most interesting courts, and finally into the ante-room adjoining the State box. In this apartment, which was richly decorated, the Royal party dined. At a quarter to nine they made their appearance in front of the Stage box, the Sultan occupying

the centre seat, with the Prince of Wales on his right and the Duke of Cambridge on his left; his kinsmen and courtiers being either grouped around or accommodated in the other compartments of the box. They were received with enthusiastic acclamations, which the Sultan repeatedly acknowledged. The National Anthem was then sung with great spirit and expression by Mdle. Titiens and other principal artists of Her Majesty's Theatre; after which was sung, in the original language, an ode to the Sultan, written in Turkish, expressly for this occasion, by Zafiraki Effendi, and the music for which was composed by Signor Arditì. This flattering effusion was followed by a few songs of a miscellaneous character, and the Imperial and Royal party then withdrew to the balcony at the back of the Stage box, there to view a superb display of fireworks, under the direction of Messrs. Brock and Co., with which the entertainments of the day were effulgently concluded. Before leaving the Palace the Sultan presented the munificent donation of 1,000 guineas to the Restoration Fund.



THE SULTAN AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE House of Lords presented all the appearances of a grand field day, in consequence of the debate being taken on the order for the second reading of the Reform Bill. Every part of the gorgeous chamber became crowded shortly after the Lord Chancellor assumed the Woolsack. The Earl of Derby, in moving the second reading of the bill, admitted that he should have been perfectly content to stand on the Act of 1832, but, in the interval that had since elapsed, a wide and deep-seated opinion had grown up in the public mind that all classes of the community were not adequately represented in the Legislature. However much, then, he might be inclined to deprecate change he thought it was desirable that Parliament should not only fully and completely represent the opinions and interests, but that it should also enjoy the confidence of all classes of the people. In conclusion he addressed a powerful and an eloquent appeal to their lordships to give the Government and the bill their support.—Earl Grey said that he had not given notice of his amendment with the object of asking the House to absolutely reject the measure, faulty and even dangerous as he considered it to be, but to affirm the necessity of greatly amending it in committee. As to his proposal being an insult to the House of Commons, it should be recollected that the bill had only been passed by a most extraordinary concurrence of circumstances, and he believed that fully two-thirds of the Commons regarded the bill as so bad that they quite concurred in the views propounded by his resolution. After reviewing the provisions of the bill at considerable length, descending on its defects and omissions, and complaining that the Government had dealt with the question in undue haste and on imperfect information, the noble earl moved—"That the bill to amend the laws relating to the representation of the people in England and Wales, to which it is asked to assent, does not appear to this House to be calculated in its present shape to effect a permanent settlement of this important question, or to promote the future good government of the country; but the House, recognising the urgent necessity for the passing of a bill to amend the existing system of representation, will not refuse to give a second reading to that which has been brought to it from the House of Commons, in the hope that in its future stages it may be found possible to correct some of its faults, and to render it better fitted to accomplish the proper objects of such a measure." Towards the close of the noble earl's speech he became so completely exhausted that he was inaudible to all but a few persons who were sitting in his immediate vicinity; and upon concluding he was so utterly prostrate that he had to be led from the House by Lord Halifax and another friend. The noble earl, however, resumed his seat at a later period of the evening.—The debate was continued by Lord Ravensworth, Earl of Morley, Viscount Stratford de Redcliffe, Earl of Carnarvon, the Duke of Rutland, &c., and was adjourned at a late hour.

The debate on the second reading of the Reform Bill was resumed by the Earl of Shaftesbury, who, observing on the peculiar position in which their lordships were placed—that they did not intend to reject the measure, although they could not approve and were incompetent to amend it—expressed his regret that the Premier had not given an assurance that in his opinion the bill would effect great good to the country. Speaking, for himself, he was not hostile to reform, which, whilst not absolutely necessary for good government, was, nevertheless, he admitted, inevitable; but his idea was that the suffrage should rather be held up to the working man as a reward for thrift, sobriety, and industry. On this ground, therefore, he would have preferred the bill of last year. The bill was a stepping-stone to universal suffrage. Henceforth democratic influence would be paramount in the country, for with it it would be impossible for the hereditary peerage and our monarchical institutions to work harmoniously.—The Lord Chancellor, adhering to Lord Grey's resolution, described it as vague and indefinite, and as having already served its purpose of securing the thorough discussion of the bill. He regretted, therefore, that the noble Earl had not announced his intention to withdraw it. One by one the learned lord then proceeded to reply to each of the propositions contained in the resolution.—The debate was continued, and eventually the bill was read a second time without a division.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

In the House of Commons, the Chancellor of the Exchequer moved the second reading of the Representation of the People (Scotland) Bill, and the question was put by the Speaker and carried *sub silentio*. The announcement that "the ayes had it" seemed to take the whole House by surprise, inasmuch as a long debate had been anticipated on the subject; but an explanation was found in the fact that there were not a half-dozen Scotch members present at the time, and these not gentlemen who are in the habit of taking a prominent part in the debates. When the House had recovered its astonishment, and realised the actual state of things it gave vent to the feeling of amusement and relief which succeeded in a burst of cheering and laughter.—Mr. Hardy, in moving the second reading of the Meetings in Royal Parks Bill, contended that the Crown had a right to the parks, and was therefore entitled to annex conditions to the entrance of the people, and to remove them if they did not observe those conditions. The bill provided that any meeting held in them without the permission of the Crown should be treated as an unlawful assembly, punishable as a misdemeanour with fine or imprisonment, and that the First Commissioner of Works might lay down bye-laws the breach of which would be visited by a small pecuniary fine.—Mr. Taylor condemned the bill as an innovation, and moved that it be read a second time that day three months.—Mr. Neate, who pronounced the bill inadequate for its avowed object, held that it was not expedient to deal with the subject of public meetings in the metropolis with reference only to Royal Parks.—Mr. Newdegate concurred in the view expressed by Mr. Neate, and said that instead of vesting discretionary powers in the Department of Works he preferred the extension of the old Act of George III., and the prohibition of all public meetings within three miles of the Houses of Parliament. After some further discussion in the House divided, and the second reading was carried by 181 to 64.—The House then went into Committee of Supply, and proceeded with the further consideration of the Civil Service estimates.

On the order for going into committee of supply, Mr. Gregory brought under the notice of the House the cases of the Tornado and the Victoria, the two British vessels seized by the Spanish authorities. With regard to the former, he held that the papers on the table showed conclusively that she was nothing else than a Chilean man-of-war, and that as such she might have been legally condemned, and her crew detained as prisoners of war. The cases of the Cyclone and the Tornado were, in his opinion, precisely similar, and he argued that the whole course pursued by these vessels was so suspicious and equivocal as to produce a conviction that they were intended for the Chilean service, and were thus contraband. He considered that the Admiralty authorities had been remiss, because prior to the Tornado and Cyclone leaving England they had not investigated the matter, and set at rest all suspicions on the subject.—Lord Stanley observed that with regard to the Victoria the claim made upon the Spaniards had not been disputed, but the settlement was so long delayed that it had become necessary to urge it in an emphatic manner. As to the Tornado, he declined to enter into the merits of the case whilst the matter was under judicial consideration. The present position of the matter was that the Spanish Government admitted the nullity of the previous proceedings, and the case was in the hands of the Minister of Marine, and an early, if not an immediate decision might be expected.

COURT AND SOCIETY.

THE Emperor of the French will probably visit London next month.

The Lady Mayoress has issued cards of invitation to an evening party at the Mansion House, on Wednesday, the 31st of July.

THE SULTAN left Buckingham Palace at a quarter past ten on Tuesday morning, and Charing-cross Station at a quarter to eleven.

THE Serapis, with the Belgian volunteers on board has arrived safely at Antwerp. The Belgians entertained at a banquet the commander and officers of the Serapis.

LORD LYONS takes his departure next week for Paris to enter upon his new functions as British Minister at the Court of the Tuileries.

LORD FERMOY, it is understood, will be shortly presented with a requisition to come forward as a candidate for Lambeth at the next election.

THE Pope has sent some valuable presents to the Sultan of Turkey and the Viceroy of Egypt, in recognition of the protection accorded in their States to Catholics.

EARL BEAUCHAMPE has been appointed to the Under-Secretaryship of the Home Office, vacated by the Earl of Belmore, on his appointment to be Governor of New South Wales.

THEIR Imperial Highnesses Prince Marat and Prince Hamid honoured the performances at Her Majesty's Theatre with their presence the other evening.

THE Queen of the Belgians, it is stated, had an interview on the 14th with her sister-in-law the Empress Charlotte, which lasted an hour. The fact of the Emperor's execution has not yet been communicated to her.

HER Royal Highness the Prince Mary Adelaide and his Serene Highness the Prince de Teck, honoured the second performance of "Le Fils de Giboyer" at the St. James's Theatre with their presence.

THE election for Birmingham terminated in the return of the Liberal candidate, the numbers being Dixon, 5,819; Lloyd, 4,214; majority, 1,605.—At Coventry, Mr. Ferrand, the Conservative candidate polled 2,123, and Mr. Jackson, the Liberal, 2,429; majority for the latter, 306.

IN consequence of the lamented death of Madame Musurus, the wife of the Turkish Ambassador, notification was made to Mr. Mapleson that the State visit of his Imperial Majesty the Sultan, and of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to Her Majesty's Theatre, as intended, would not take place.

THE French Imperial yacht Reine Hortense arrived in the Solent on Monday morning, with her Majesty the Empress of the French on board. The Empress landed and proceeded to Osborne House on a private visit to the Queen. The Empress only remained three days.

THE Belgians have been better treated in England than is generally supposed. L'Escaut announces that a lieutenant of the Garde Civique has secured during his brief stay here an English heiress and a thousand a year. This matrimonial nugget was discovered by the fortunate Belgian whilst smoking his cigar in Kensington Gardens.

ON Monday in the early part of the day, his Majesty the Sultan paid formal visits of farewell to the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the Duke of Cambridge. He also called on Lady Palmerston; and in the afternoon visited the Houses of Parliament, after which he dined with the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland, at Stafford House, St. James's.

HIS Highness the Viceroy of Egypt has presented to the Lady Mayoress a magnificent brooch of great value as a token of his Highness's gratitude for the munificent entertainment given to him at the Mansion House on Thursday week. The *souvenir* consists of one magnificent pearl, surrounded by 16 large brilliants of the finest water, with eight radiations of brilliants, terminated by others equally large; and pending from this star are chains of diamonds supporting four large pear-shaped pearls.

ON Saturday evening the Lord Mayor gave a banquet to a number of Belgian volunteer officers in the Egyptian Hall. The entertainment was of that sumptuous character which distinguishes the hospitality of the Mansion House; and some interesting speeches were made by his lordship and by the eloquent burgomaster of Bruges. Owing to the lateness of the hour at which the review at Wimbledon was brought to a conclusion, several of the invited guests were unable to be present.

THE Belgians took their departure on Monday in the Serapis. They paraded in Somerset House, and at eleven marched, by way of the Strand and Parliament-street, to the House of Commons stairs at Westminster Bridge, where they embarked in six river steamers. A very large crowd was assembled on their route, and upon the bridges, and gave them a very warm greeting. The whole of the shipping in the Pool was dressed with flags, and the scene formed a worthy termination of their ten days' festivities.

WE understand that a compass on a new and important principle has been made, and is being patented by the Earl of Cairness. The details of the invention are distinguished by great simplicity, and are such as will be of the utmost importance to seafaring men. The compass was tested on board the new steamer *Russia*, on the Clyde, the other day, and the result was in the highest degree to show its great superiority to that now in use. One of its chief recommendations is of course its simplicity, but there are other features, such as its not being affected by those influences that produce motion on other compasses, the absence of the pendulum, &c.

THE Sultan left London on Tuesday morning a few minutes before eleven o'clock. The Prince of Wales and the Duke of Cambridge accompanied him from the Charing-cross Terminus of the South-Eastern Railway to Dover. A guard of honour and a distinguished company at the station did the honours of the departure. At Dover his Imperial Majesty lunched at the Lord Warden Hotel, and speedily went on board the Osborne Royal yacht, which at two o'clock cast off from the pier under a royal salute from the Castle, and paddled across Channel, being escorted by a considerable squadron, consisting, among other ships, of the *Minotaur* and the *Liverpool*. His Majesty, besides giving £500 to the officials of the South-Eastern Railway who had to do with his trains, has sent to the Lord Mayor £2,500 for the poor of London. Such a regal *souvenir* will doubtless cause the deserving poor of the City for many a day to remember the Sultan's visit to England. We regret to add that a sad accident occurred in firing the parting salute at the Drop Redoubt. One man was killed, and two were seriously injured.

THE BLOOD, THE BLOOD.—When the blood is impure the whole body suffers. Then come indigestion, lowness of spirits, loss of flesh, nervousness, and a general feeling of discomfort. A course of "THE BLOOD PURIFIER," OLD DR. JACOB TOWNSEND'S SASSAPARILLA acts specifically on the blood, purifying it of all vitiated humours. The digestion becomes easy, the spirits buoyant, the body regains its strength, and the mind its tranquillity. Sold by all druggists. Chief Depot, 131, Fleet-street. *Caution*—Get the red and blue wrappers with the Old Doctor's head in the centre; no other genuine.—[ADVT.]

TO CONSUMPTIVES.—Dr. H. James, the retired physician, continues to send, free of charge, to all who desire, the copy of the prescription by which his daughter was restored to perfect health from confirmed consumption, after having been given up by her physician and despaired of by her father. Sent free to all on receipt of one stamp.—Address, O. P. Brown, Secretary, No. 2, King-street, Covent-garden, London.—[ADVT.]

HOME AND DOMESTIC.

A BODY picked up in Cliffe Creek was identified on Saturday as that of Charles Sangster, one of the crew of the Cigar ship, who were lost off Northfleet in December last, thus raising the number of bodies recovered and identified to eight.

WE observe from the return that the import of French wines into this country is making rapid strides, the quantity having increased in 1866 by upwards of 25 per cent. as compared with an increased of Spanish wines of 9 per cent. only, and an actual falling off in Portuguese wines of 6 per cent.

A MAN has been apprehended at Hathersage, in Derbyshire, on a charge of having shot a workman employed at a needle factory there. The prisoner fired twice with a revolver and caused four wounds, which, however, are not thought at present to be of a serious nature. The case is described as a trade union outrage.

IN the debate on the County Court Acts Amendment Bill on Clause 30, to abolish the power of imprisonment, Mr. Monk said that by abolishing this power the poor would often suffer from not being able to obtain credit. The Attorney-General supported the clause, which was agreed to.

THE preparations for the great show of the Royal Agricultural Society, to be held the last week in August, in Dublin, are rapidly progressing. The different buildings are being erected in Stephen's Green, and all the arrangements will be on such a scale as will ensure the show being one of the largest and most important ever held in Ireland.

THE first gold medal given by Her Majesty the Queen, to be competed for annually by the students of the Female School of Art, 43, Queen-square, has been awarded to Miss Alice Manly, for three groups of flowers painted in tempera from nature. Miss Manly is also this year the successful competitor for a national silver medal given by the Science and Art Department.

WE understand that although requisitions were sent to all the ports for 1,000 volunteers from the Naval Reserve for the naval review, only 300 of the 17,000 could be got together. It may be that men who are unwilling to render a day's holiday service, will rush in thousands to the rendezvous at the instant their services are required for war, but we are inclined very much to doubt it.

THE owners of constabulary barracks in the county of Kerry have, in reply to the circular recently issued by the Government, made a very reasonable proposal with regard to the defrayal of the cost of placing the barracks in a proper state of defence. This proposal is to the effect that they should be paid 10 per cent. on the outlay incurred, and be reimbursed the entire amount on the barracks ceasing to be rented by the Government.

THE Phillips' will cause in the Court of Probate was brought to a close on Saturday evening by a verdict to the effect that the deceased Mr. Phillips never executed at all the codicil of the will which the proceedings were intended to establish, and that he was not, at the day of its date, in a state of mind to execute any such deed. The Court accordingly pronounced against the codicil, and ordered probate thereof to be revoked.

MR. FRANK HEATHCOTE had organized a handicap on the water at the Welsh Harp, Hendon, for Saturday, but the weather and the counter-attraction at Wimbledon caused the attendance of shooters to be extremely limited, but several sweepstakes were got through. Mr. Frederick Norris divided one with Mr. Rudd, who took the moiety of the next, Mr. Coates being the other receiver. Le Comte de Gendre took two sweeps, and so did Mr. Reginald Herbert.

THE Earl of Derby announced at the meeting of peers on Friday that Lord Grey's resolution, if carried, would be fatal to the passing of the Reform Bill. We understand his lordship further stated, that he would not refer to committee a bill which had received the stigma of a resolution, in his judgment, insulting to the House of Commons, who had passed the bill unanimously. This determination was cordially endorsed by the peers present—in number 92, out of 115 at present resident in town.

A SUPPLEMENTARY estimate to cover the charges for granting increased pay to the army, &c., has been issued. The total sum is £500,000, of which £416,750 has been already voted, the brigadier-general taking £750, the 2d. a day absorbing £376,000, the additional 1d. a day for re-engaged men requiring £23,000, the rewards to enlistees amounting to £7,000, and the additional bounty to re-engaged men going abroad being £10,000. Of the balance of the £500,000 the sum of £63,250 goes to the militia, and £20,000 to the army reserve force.

A MYSTERIOUS affair has taken place at Woolverton, a village in Somersetshire. A fire was discovered in a malthouse at an early hour on Saturday morning by a boy who was going to his work. An alarm was raised, and the fire speedily extinguished. It was then found that the charred remains of a human body were lying on a board over the spot where the fire had broken out. An examination led to the belief that the corpse was that of a farmer's wife, who lived only a few yards from the spot. She was missing. Her husband, who assisted at the fire, has been taken into custody on a charge of murder, and has confessed his guilt.

WE are authorised to contradict a statement which has appeared that the Emperor Maximilian, before his capture, sent to M. Louis Blanc some letters and other manuscripts of great political importance, in order that they might be published. M. Louis Blanc has received no papers of any kind from the late Emperor or on his behalf. Although the story has been in circulation only a few days, M. Louis Blanc has been all but inundated with applications from publishers offering to undertake the charge of giving to the world the imaginary documents.

A VERY serious case of insubordination occurred at Aldershot on Thursday night in the barracks of the 1st (King's) Dragoon Guards. Among the men of the regiment is one Patrick Bryant, who bears a very bad character. During the day he had been heard to say that he would have the life of some one. About ten p.m. he was a defaulter at the call for watch-setting, and, apparently under the influence of drink, was dancing when Sergeant Penfold entered the barrack-room. The sergeant immediately ordered him to be made a prisoner, and two men were advancing towards him for that purpose, when he made a rush at Penfold and furiously attacked him with a drawn sword, inflicting severe wounds on the head and across the thigh. There is very little doubt that the sergeant would have been murdered, had not some of the men rushed upon Bryant and restrained him from further violence. The wounded man was conveyed to the hospital, where he lies in a precarious state. The delinquent has been ordered into confinement, and in the event of Penfold's case terminating fatally will be handed over to the civil power.

ON Friday afternoon a very serious accident occurred at the factory of Messrs. Soles, Outwin, and Jackson, Barnsley, to a youth named Abel Durning. The lad was employed at a warping machine, and had completed his warp; when it would appear that he threw the strap off, for shortly before the accident occurred he was seen swinging to and fro by the strap, which runs on a five-inch drum connected to the coupling shafting, which was in motion at the time. Directly after a scream was heard, and on looking in the direction the lad was being drawn round the shafting by the strap. The boy's father, hearing the scream, put his head out of a window, and called to the engineman to stop the engine. Fortunately he was at the time "handing" his engine, and it was stopped instantly. The drum was going at the rate of 110 revolutions per minute, and the lad had only been drawn round twice before the engine was stopped. He was removed home as quickly as possible, and medical aid procured, when it was found that his right arm and left leg were broken. The accident is said to be the result of the boy's own carelessness, as there was no danger whatever in connection with the machinery if the boy had attended to his work.

PROVINCIAL.

SOME very severe and destructive thunderstorms have occurred in Yorkshire. Sheep and cattle were killed by the lightning, and the hail has done some damage, but so far no injury to human life is reported.

ACCOUNTS continue to reach us of the severity of the recent thunderstorms. In many parts of Herefordshire and adjoining counties the lightning appears to have made havoc amongst sheep especially. Much hay is still out, and the weather is very bad.

AN accident befel the mail steam packet Breeze, on her arrival at Dover on Saturday. The vessel was allowed to run into the harbour with full steam up, and struck with great violence against the stone breakwater, where she remained fixed. The passengers were considerably alarmed, but they were safely landed, as well as the mails.

THE price of wool shows no quotable change upon last week, though the tendency in the market is still in favour of the buyer. The "clip" is now over, and has proved a heavy one. In yarns there is a good deal of machinery yet standing, and spinners are working to very little profit. The same may be said of manufacturers of pieces, whose only orders are those required to supply present and pressing wants.

As a young man in the telegraph office at Carriek-on-Suir was transmitting some message last week during the thunderstorm, which was then raging fiercely, the electric fluid entered the office, and struck from his hand an open penknife, which he was holding. The knife having struck against the wall of the office rebounded, and the haft struck the young man on the back of the wrist, which immediately became very much swollen. The lightning did no other harm.

ON the 20th instant James Baker was tried at Chelmsford for what has been called "the Dagenham murder." It may be remembered that the deceased had given herself up to intemperate habits, and had neglected her husband and children. They were consequently obliged to remove to another village, and when on the road the prisoner, in a sudden fit of passion, stabbed her in the throat with a penknife. He was strongly recommended to mercy by the jury, and the judge promised to forward their recommendation to the proper quarter. The prisoner was, however, sentenced to death.

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A SUSPICIOUS-LOOKING vessel has been seen for some days by the coastguards on duty at Cabore Point, county Wexford. Captain Barlow, inspecting commander of coastguards at that station, signalled to the vessel by means of the rocket apparatus, but she refused to return the signal, and proceeded on her way without showing any colours. She appeared to be a vessel fitted out for war, having several large guns on board, with her portholes closed. Her Majesty's gunboat Whiting has been despatched from Youghal harbour in pursuit of the suspicious craft, which was observed proceeding northwards, but up to the present time no account has been received of her capture.

IT would also seem that great crimes, like ordinary troubles, "come not single spies, but in battalions." In our present issue we record two most atrocious murders, one at Derby and the other at the village of Woolverton, near Frome; and publish the particulars of two other shocking homicides. At St. Helen's, a respectable inhabitant shortly after midnight heard a thief in his house, and on going downstairs and challenging the burglar, was suddenly seized and his throat cut. At Lichfield a man named Train invited some friends into his house, and was laying the cloth for supper, when a quarrel ensued, during which one of the guests drew a clasp knife and thrust it into Train's stomach, causing almost instant death.

THE hop market has risen in the last fortnight, owing to the critical state of the growing crop, and hops are worth fully 10s. per cwt. more money. The plant has been continuing its growth, but the blight seems to follow it up as fast as it grows. Nevertheless, there is, on the whole, a decided improvement in the prospect of the year's crop. There have been heavy rains and rough winds, which seem to have been useful in cleaning the bine, and it is yet too early to prognosticate as to the result. St. James's Day is now near at hand, about which there is an old distich—

"Till James's Day is come and gone

There may be hops or there may be none."

In Herefordshire the prospects of a crop are, on the whole, better than in Worcestershire.

A SHOCKING and mysterious murder has been perpetrated at Derby. An aged lady, the widow of a solicitor, living in a terrace opposite the railway station, and close to the bustle of that vast establishment, was found, on the afternoon of Thursday, the 18th inst., dying from the effects of a large wound on the top of her head. Her son, who lived with her, left the house at one o'clock p.m., his mother then being in good spirits, and everything as usual. A friend, who had been invited to tea, called at half-past three, and finding her knocking unheeded went round to the back door, which was open, and discovered the deceased in an insensible state, from which she never rallied. No property appears to have been taken, and no signs of a struggle were visible. The jury have returned a verdict of "Wilful murder" against some person unknown.

ABOUT a quarter past five on Saturday last a fire broke out at the mill of Messrs. Napier and Co., off Fletcher-road, Preston. The premises are very extensive, and a large number of operatives were employed in them. The fire was first discovered in the taping and winding portion of the mill, and an alarm having been given, Mr. Marriott and the members of the Preston Fire Brigade were promptly in attendance. Notwithstanding their efforts several floors of that portion of the mill gave way; the cotton that was being worked was burnt up; the machinery was twisted and spoiled, and the part devoted to taping and winding operations was completely gutted. Fears were entertained that the other portion of the premises would be ignited, but the firemen directed their efforts almost exclusively to that point, and very little damage was caused to it. The damage could not be definitely ascertained, but it must amount to several thousands of pounds. It is thought that, besides the tapers and winders, the weavers will be thrown out of employment for a considerable time.

DENMARK AND PRUSSIA.—The question of North Schleswig excites absorbing interest in Denmark, and the Danish press is full of violent diatribes against Prussia. *Fædrelandet* had an article the other day, in which it stated that if the Crown Prince married a Prussian Princess the present dynasty would not deserve to keep the Danish throne, that Prussia is the advanced guard of barbarism in Europe, and that if the proposed marriage of the Swedish Princess to Prince Albrecht of Prussia were carried out, Sweden would be as much detested by the Danes as Prussia. *Dagbladet* attacks Prussia with equal violence, and hopes that, as nothing is to be expected from Prussian justice or magnanimity, Denmark may be assisted by a Power "which has the irresistible argument of might."

FOREIGN AND GENERAL.

ANOTHER new opera, by M. Offenbach, "La Permission de Dix Heures," has been produced at Ems, with entire success.

It is reported at Hanover that the ex-King will shortly settle with his family at Paris.

THE Germans residing in China have sent to Count de Bismarck, as a mark of their admiration, a silver cup weighing six pounds, of elegant workmanship.

It is thought that the French fleet will renew their expedition to the Corea to obtain satisfaction for the murder of their missionaries.

BEREZOWSKI has not appealed to the Court of Cassation against the sentence of the Assize Court, condemning him to hard labour for life.

THE rumour has been current for some days past that an identical note, couched in very stiff terms, had been forwarded to Berlin from Paris and Vienna simultaneously.

A BODY of Garibaldians, 600 strong, have appeared at different points on the Papal frontiers; but were prevented by the Italian troops from making any attempt at invasion.

ADVICES received from Japan announce that a political difference has arisen between the Shogun and the Daimios respecting the opening of the port of Osaka to foreign trade.

It is stated that the body of Maximilian was embalmed; this circumstance induces us to suppose that the remains will ultimately reach Europe.

THE apparition of Lord Dundreary in Paris seems to be as perplexing as it is edifying to our neighbours. Over the English and American guests, however, it exercised its well-known funny fascination.

THE first volume of the works of Lagrange has just been presented to the French Academy of Sciences. This edition of the works of the celebrated mathematician, which will be comprised in seven volumes, is published at the expense of the Government.

ONE of the clearest cakes of gold yet brought into Queenstown was to be seen at the Bank of Otago, New Zealand. It was the produce of the Scandinavian Company's reef; the weight of it being 321 ounces, obtained from about 200 tons of stone.

THE international chess tournament at the Exhibition has terminated. The Grand Prize, given by the Emperor, a splendid Sevres vase, worth over 4,000*fr.*, was gained by M. Kolisch (Hungarian), the second by M. Wiggner (Pole), the third by M. Steinitz (Austrian), and the fourth by M. Neumann (Prussian). The last three prizes consist of sums of money.

THE bill abolishing imprisonment for debt passed the French Senate by a narrow majority. Government majority, 7. There was another division on the motion that this bill be promulgated; it was carried by 64 votes against 5. There was a grand banquet and illumination at Cligny in honour of the passing of the law which is to free all its inmates.

WE learn by the Indian mail that the Bombay Government has received information that one, possibly two, of the Abyssinian captives had died. As this information is not given in a very positive form there is ground to hope it may prove unfounded. The news from Orissa is not so satisfactory, and funds are yet needed, principally to support the unfortunate children made orphans by the famine.

A FORTNIGHT ago there were about 230 ships, of all nations, lying in the harbour of Gêfe, in the Gulf of Bothnia, waiting for cargoes of timber and iron. On a Sunday, the streets being crowded with tars, some Prussian sailors attacked some Norwegians, who were speedily reinforced by Swedes, and a battle (aggravated perhaps by politics) raged up and down several streets, till some timely arrests put an end to the riot.

A CODE of pilot regulations for the open ports has been submitted by the Chinese Government to the foreign ministers at Peking. The rules passed by the foreign consuls could not obtain legal effect, owing to want of jurisdiction. If the new Chinese regulations are established, of which there is no doubt, every ship and steamer arriving at and departing from all open ports will have to employ pilots.

ADVICES from Toulouse state that a late storm has done immense damage in that district. At Verleil the harvest has been annihilated, the vines cut to pieces, and the grapes covered the ground. At Sausseus an old man of 79, having taken refuge under an elm tree, near the church, was killed by the electric fluid. The town of Lavaur was suddenly transformed into a lake; the houses were inundated, and a clockmaker, surprised by the water, escaped with the utmost difficulty.

WE learn from Washington that the arrangement of preliminaries to an arbitration of the Alabama claims is still rendered impossible by Mr. Seward's determination that the subject of the recognition of the belligerent rights of the South shall be also submitted. To this Lord Stanley has thus far refused his consent. There are rumours of serious differences between the President and his Premier on some foreign question, but the nature of it and the country concerned are not known.

A TELEGRAM, dated Valencia, Saturday, six p.m., reports that the cable of 1866 was broken suddenly on Saturday afternoon, that the preliminary experiments give the locality at 50 nautical miles from the other side—i. e., from Heart's Content. This would indicate a very moderate depth of water, in which the injury can be repaired with great facility, as in the case of the recent accident to the shore end of the same cable. The 1865 cable is in perfect order.

CAPTAIN FREDERICK NURSE CROMARTIE, of the Royal Artillery, now at Malta, was found dead in his bed on the evening of July 10. He was shot through the heart, and a pistol which had recently been discharged was lying beside him. He has left a widow and two young children. The deceased had lately been reprimanded for some neglect of duty as president of the council committee, and it is thought that, this preying on his mind, drove him to commit this rash act. His funeral was attended by nearly all the officers of the garrison, the deceased being a general favourite.

AN extensive conflagration has broken out in the forests which cover the Maures mountains extending along the coast south of Draguignan, between Hyères and Frejus. The fire, which began in the commune of Gafaron, has been for days past extending its ravages along the sides of the mountains. The domanial forests were still, on the afternoon of Thursday, unreachably by the flames. The fire was somewhat declining, the wind having fortunately fallen. The people of the districts and the authorities emulated each other in their efforts to arrest the progress of destruction, which has already spread over a vast extent of ground.

STRANGE to say, remarks the *Sydney Herald*, while water has been so abundant all over the country, there is one little spot where people have been dying of thirst. It is said that in the Lachlan back country bodies and skeletons of persons who have perished from want of water are being continually found. It is also related that one man offered a pound note for half a pint of water, and having got it and swallowed it, offered £20 for a full pint, so great was his thirst. This may be an exaggeration, but still the story passes muster and is generally believed. The tract of country alluded to is the only portion of the colony where the rain has not fallen in large quantities.

METROPOLITAN.

WE notice that the new and excellent paper called the *Tribune* has been enlarged.

SATURDAY was almost a holiday in the City owing to the review at Wimbledon. There was no gold sent into the Bank. The Stock Exchange was entirely closed by order of the Committee. It is said that the theatre now being constructed in St. Martin's Hall will be managed by Mr. Alfred Wigan, who has been too long lost to London.

ON Monday the first stone of a new church, in Delamare-terrace, Paddington, to be dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene, was laid with the usual formalities. The services of the festival commenced on Sunday night, when there was full choral service in the temporary church, which was decorated with the choicest flowers.

AT St. Bartholomew's Church, Moor-lane on Sunday, the Rev. J. Lyne ("Father Ignatius") indulged in some strong expressions as to the fulsome way in which our Eastern visitors had been received during the past week. Why Christian churches should ring out joyous peals of welcome to a heathen monarch he could not understand at all.

ON Saturday Mr. John Holms addressed the electors of the proposed new borough of Hackney, at the New Tabernacle School-rooms, Old-street. Mr. Holms expressed himself in favour of compulsory education, and opposed to the opening of the Crystal Palace and British Museum on Sundays. A resolution approving of Mr. Holms' sentiments, and pledging the meeting to support him at the election, was adopted.

IT is stated that an officer of a volunteer artillery corps insisted on forcing his way through one of the regiments which was leaving the review ground at Wimbledon on Saturday, the men with difficulty escaping injury from the guns. Subsequently the same artillery detachment is reported to have damaged more than one private carriage. An inquiry into the matter by the War Office is likely to take place.

AT the Middlesex Sessions, George Parker, a shopkeeper in Long-acre, was charged with feloniously receiving a stolen watch, the property of a gentleman, from whose hands it was snatched in Holborn while he was looking what time it was. Prosecutor was a "spiritualist," and said he was informed by "spirits" that his watch was at the prisoner's shop, and on going thither found it on the counter, it having been just purchased from a man who gave no address. The jury acquitted the prisoner.

THE inquest on the man killed by the recent collision on the North London Railway, at Old Ford, Bow, has terminated in a verdict of "Accidental death." The levers by which the points are moved are, it seems, placed side by side, only an inch or two apart, and the pointman admits that he pulled the wrong lever, and thus caused the accident. The jury took the merciful course of blaming the company for not having in use "the patent locking apparatus," which prevents the possibility of such accidents, rather than that of giving a verdict of manslaughter against the pointman, who bears a good reputation for care and sobriety.

ON Saturday an inquest was held at the Carlton Arms, Clifton-fields, Old Kent-road, respecting the death of Mary Ann Smith, aged 13 years, the daughter of a commercial clerk. Deceased had been bitten in one of her fingers by a dog in the middle of May last, whilst engaged by a lady residing in the neighbourhood to clean the steps. The finger healed up, and she continued well up till about Thursday last, when she complained of pains in her head and arms, and according to the medical evidence exhibited the usual symptoms of hydrophobia. Verdict, "Death from hydrophobia from the bite of a dog."

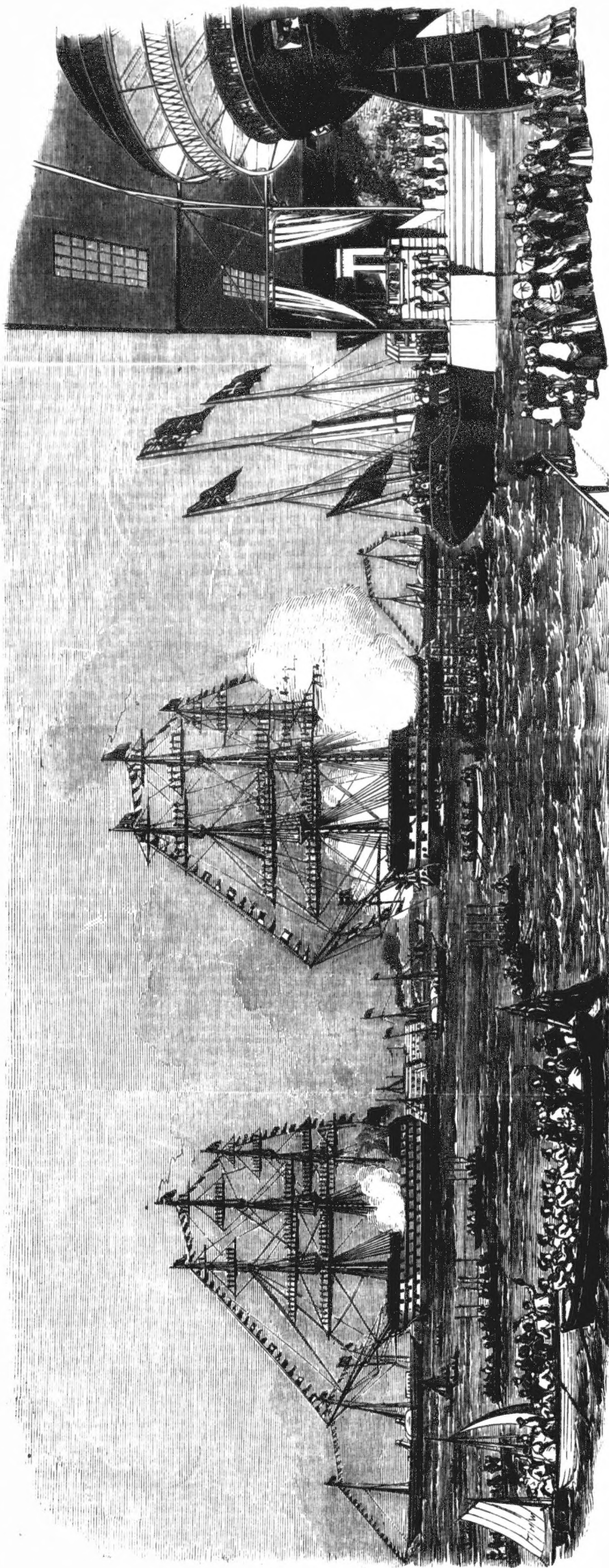
AN inquest was held on Saturday evening at the Russell Arms, Bedford-street, Seymour-street, on the body of William Haydon. On Monday afternoon a bricklayer, named Reeves, was sitting in a beer-shop in Seymour-street drinking some ale, when the deceased tried to force himself on Reeves's company. He found that this was distasteful, but instead of going away he continued to insult Reeves, and finally challenged him to fight. Reeves in self-defence, accepted the challenge, and after a short struggle they both fell, Haydon underneath, and in falling he received an internal injury, from which death resulted. After a long inquiry, a verdict of "Accidental death" was returned.

ON Saturday a great fire broke out at the manufactory of Mr. Wells, builder and joiner, Riley-street, Bermondsey-street West. By the time the engines arrived three-parts of the building were sending forth such huge bodies of flame as to ignite the stacks and piles of timber in the open yard. Plenty of water having been procured the engines were set to work with full vigour, but the fire continued its ravages, and it was nearly nine o'clock before it could be said to be safely extinguished, and not before the five floors of the factory were burned out, the roof destroyed, and the timber in yard severely damaged by the fire. The origin of the disaster is at present enveloped in mystery.

THE review on Saturday at Wimbledon, which terminated the Volunteer campaign of 1867, furnished a most brilliant military spectacle, and the number of visitors of every rank and class was beyond all precedent. The Sultan, riding a splendid white charger, was "the observed of all observers" who were able to get near enough to see anything. The evening closed in with heavy rain, to the great discomfort and annoyance of many thousands who did not reach home, drenched and weary, before midnight. The Sultan was entertained at dinner by Earl Spencer, the president of the Volunteer Association, in a magnificent tent set up near the grounds of the noble Earl's cottage, which is situated on Wimbledon-common.

ON Saturday evening an inquest was held at the Mylebone Workhouse on the body of James Gordon, aged 55. The deceased who was an artist, was found in the tunnel at the Portland-road Station of the Metropolitan Railway on Thursday morning. It would seem that he had walked some distance into the tunnel, and had then laid his head on the rails. A train came along and severed it from the body. A post mortem examination showed that the brain was very much diseased. The deceased was of rather intemperate habits, and had been suffering from delirium whilst in the station-house on Monday, whether he had been taken on account of his drunken and incapable condition. The jury, in accordance with the medical testimony, returned a verdict of "Temporary insanity."

A GRAND day-and-night *fete* took place at Cremorne Gardens on Monday, being for the benefit of the enterprising *Jesse*, Mr. E. T. Smith, and the crowded attendance amply testified to the estimation in which that gentleman's catering is held by the amusement-going portion of the public. In addition to the ball, burlesque, and the acrobatic, equestrian, amphibious, and other performances, the programme was supplemented on this occasion by a grand balloon ascent, which was successfully made by Mr. R. Orion, in the "Princess Alexandra" fish balloon, and a sham fight on the Thames, in which the vessels of the Iron and Citizen Steamboat Company formed the attacking force, and kept up a brisk bombardment of Cremorne for some time, which was replied to with equal vigour from the shore, after which a brilliant illumination by coloured fires, and an effective display of some elaborate set pieces and designs on the river concluded a very gorgeous pyrotechnic display. Dancing was kept up with great spirit to the inspiring strains of the celebrated Cremorne band until an early hour of the morning.



THE SULTAN PREPARING TO GO ON BOARD THE OSBORNE.

Our illustration represents the Sultan preparing to go on board the Osborne. At ten minutes to eleven a salute from the ships in harbour, announced the arrival of a distinguished personage, who turned out to be the Viceroy. His Highness, who went by train to the Royal Clarence Yard, Gosport, was received by the authorities, and conducted across the harbour and on board the Helicon, a new plough-bowed Government yacht which lay at the Dockyard jetty. Ten minutes afterwards another salute told of the coming of the Sultan, who arrived by the same route in company with the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Cambridge, and who was rowed in the admiral's state barge on board the Osborne Royal yacht.

PROJECTED IMPROVEMENT IN CABS.—Some speculative and enterprising capitalists at the West-end are about to originate a new cab company, for the purpose of supplying a want which has been long felt—viz., a substitution of light and even elegant vehicles for the heavy, dismal, and, in nine cases out of ten, dirty vehicles at present used as hack carriages. The company intend to let both cabs and horses to their drivers at the smallest possible amount of hire, and upon the good old principle of "live and let live." The men employed are to wear the livery of the new company, which, however, is to be confined to a simple suit of black or blue cloth, with a plain narrow gold band round the hat. The carriages themselves are to resemble private broughams, and the hiring and driving of them will be entrusted to men of sober and tried character only.—*The Whip*.

ILLUMINATION OF THE FLEET.

We give a view of the illuminations and fireworks at the conclusion of the review. The illuminations came off at the appointed time. At one time the mist prevented a very distinct view from the shore. So far as they were seen, however, the effect was admirable. All the vessels lighted up. There was a fine display of rockets both from the ships and the forts, which gave much pleasure to an immense number of people congregated along Southsea Esplanade.

AN UNPOPULAR PRINCE.—Prince Charles of Roumania, who during the first few months of his reign was so popular with his subjects, must have been rather disagreeably surprised at his reception in Moldavia during his late tour in that part of his dominions. At Jassy the boyars declined to offer him a suitable residence, so that he was obliged to put up with very plebeian lodgings in the house of the prefect, and as he passed through the villages the only cry that greeted him was that of "Murim de foamé" (we are dying of hunger). An even more significant demonstration of public feeling was made at Reszi, where a memorial signed by 6,000 Moldavians was presented to the Prince, begging that the union at present existing between the Principalities of Moldavia and Wallachia might be dissolved. Nor is the popular discontent confined to Moldavia. The Prince has lost much of his popularity at Bucharest, and even the German population of that town who last year were his most enthusiastic supporters, are complaining bitterly of the refusal of the Government to grant them certain exceptional privileges they had hoped to obtain.

EMBARKATION OF THE SULTAN AT PORTSMOUTH.

THE SULTAN INSPECTING THE WOODEN SHIPS AT SPITHEAD.

We give a sketch of the Osborne with the Sultan on board passing through the line of wooden vessels at Spithead. Precisely at noon the Royal yacht Osborne was seen to open Portsmouth harbour, and immediately the word was passed, "Pipe all hands." Amidst a thunder from the shore the yachts Osborne and Helicon, with the Sultan and Viceroy on board, rounded towards the east end of the line. The sea-men ordered aloft to man yards, ran up the yards in face of wind and weather with their wonted activity, awaiting the order to "lay out and face aft." The yardarms of the five-masted Minotaur were alive with seamen, and rarely has such an effect been witnessed. The yachts nearing, the word was passed, "Lay out and prepare to cheer," and as the yachts passed between the lines real British cheers welcomed the Grand Turk and his Highness the Viceroy of Egypt. The troop-ship Scarpis lying a-head of the Malabar, and astern of the Minotaur, was the only large ship that did not send men aloft to man yards. The wooden squadron, viewed in a line from the head of the column, presented forests of masts, but each particular ship could be recognised, and the Sultan could not have failed to admire the grandeur of the spectacle. The line kept admirable position, the distance between each vessel being kept with praiseworthy accuracy. The Royal salute, commencing with the second gun from the Victoria, was taken up promptly, and the Commander of the Faithful passed the war ships amidst a deafening din of the heavy cannon from the iron line and from the less heavily armed division of wooden ships. After second gun, the fleet was enveloped in smoke. The firing was regular, and the ships ceased firing within a few seconds of each other.

A WONDER.

Is the *English Mechanic and Mirror of Science*, we find the following extraordinary statement:—"A New Plant.—Sir: In the month of May, 1866, while on business in a colliery district in the county of Durham, I had the good fortune to make the acquaintance of a carpenter, lately in the employ of Dr. Livingstone, the great African explorer, he having been sent home in consequence of losing his speech. I was lucky enough to obtain from him several very curious seeds, which he informed me the natives were in the habit of eating when on long journeys. After trying several methods I have at last succeeded in cultivating some to perfection, and I have already had hundreds of people to see these wonderfully beautiful plants. As I dare not venture on your space to describe my mode of cultivation, I will, for the present, only describe the plants. In the first instance I can fearlessly say that they are unquestionably new to this country. These I have in the ground, which are seedling, have attained the height of 6 feet 2 inches, and 14 inches in circumference. At the thickest part the stalk is of a pure crimson, with here and there large yellowish protuberances, from which spring from five to seven leaves of a dark green colour, white at the edges, similar in appearance to variegated holly leaves. The edges of the leaves are serrated. The flowers, which are in abundance, eclipse in grandeur any I have ever seen. They are about twice the size of the tulip. The ground colour of the petals is an azure blue, spotted with crimson, and streaked at intervals with yellowish streaks. I shall have some seeds ready very soon if the weather keeps dry, and I shall be happy to let any of my brother readers have a small quantity according to number of applications. I cannot supply any large quantity."—JOSEPH HESSELTON. No. 4, St. Hilda-street, Hartlepool, Durham.

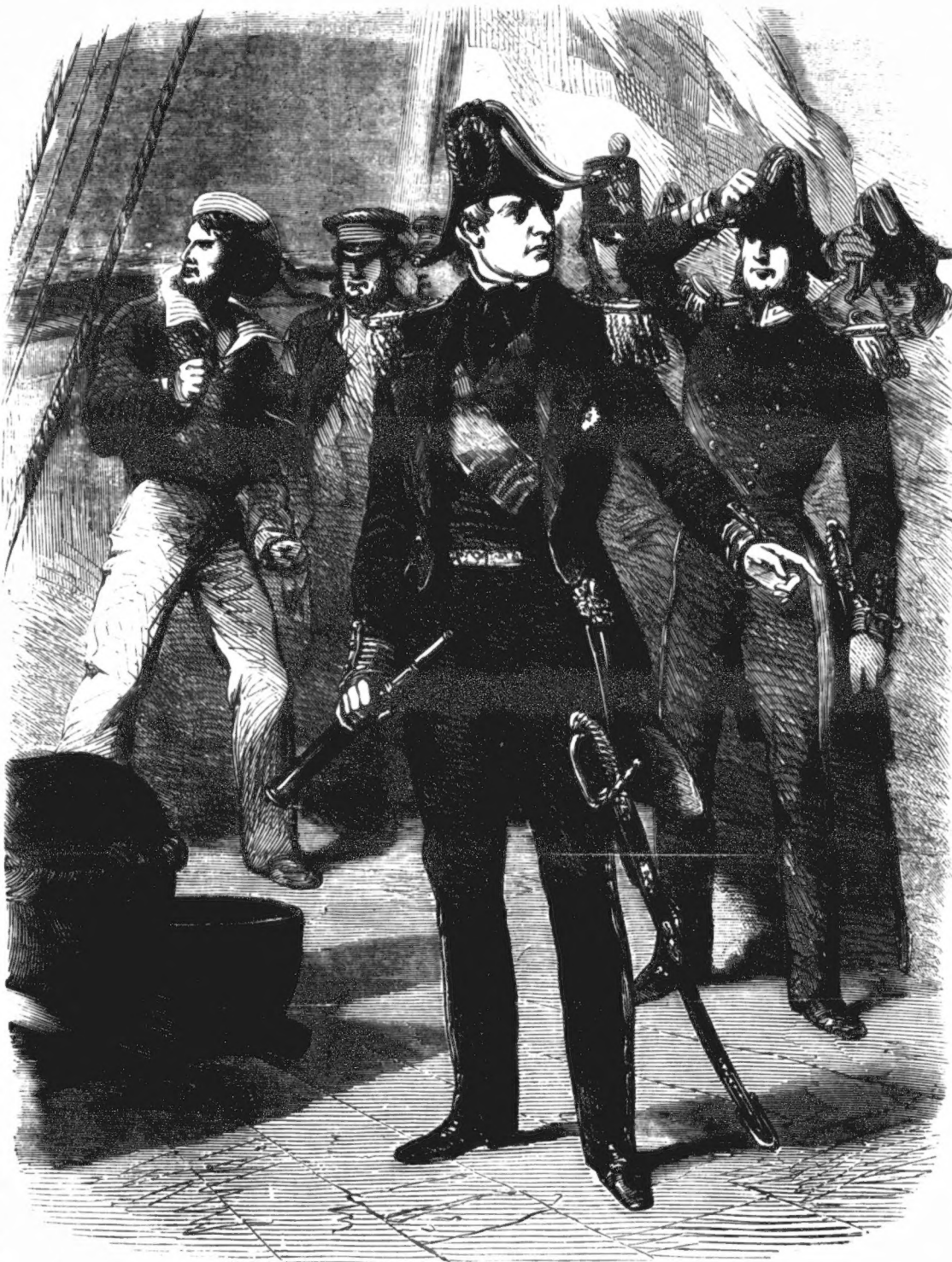
ACTORS.

WHILE the souvenir of the music is still in my mind, I can speak of the death of another dramatic writer, following so closely that of Ponsard that it seems to realise the sad saying that one sorrow seldom comes alone. Of all the joyous circle of young writers, the most adored friend and gayest companion, Lambert Thiboust, has died—young, handsome, brilliant, full of *entrain* and goodness, idolised by his mother, by his sisters whose dots he had made, his brother whom he had established, and the public, who first applauded the poor actor and then the well-known writer. Twenty years ago a troop of young men, painters, sculptors, and apprentice comedians, formed a dramatic society and played, with an immense stock of enthusiasm and energy, wildly romantic or uproariously comic pieces to a varying audience of embryo painters and grisettes, and perhaps some artists' models to fill up the corners. Lambert's successes on this modest stage encouraged him to go higher; he entered the Conservatoire, took prizes there, got an engagement at the Odéon, which he left definitively a short time afterwards, when the success of a little piece he wrote decided his destiny as a dramatic author. From that moment farces, comedies, and melodramas fell thick and fast from his pen. A hundred and eight of his pieces were played during sixteen years at the best Paris theatres, and many, I doubt not, have been adapted for the English stage. Sometimes, in the midst of Thiboust's gaiety, the thought would come to him that he might have done better and written higher works than the things that made his audiences scream with laughter, and now and then shed a tear which was forgotten. "Oh, *destinée du poète!*" would he cry, half laughing, half sadly; "twenty works are seething in my brain, but the torrent of life whirls me on, and here I am still writing buffoneries."

One winter's night, after a joyous dinner, Lambert Thiboust and a few friends went to the theatre, the smallest in all Paris, whose name no paper ever deigns to mention. The author's appearance was an event of tremendous excitement for the whole company, who immediately saw dazzling chances of engagements at first-rate theatres, and of splendid articles by the journalist who accompanied him. Between the acts the author's party expressed the wish to see the *coulisses* of the temple of art. In the green room a poor musician of the miserable theatre came, hat in hand, and said to Thiboust: "Do you recognise me, Monsieur?" A fool would have said no, but the good-hearted Lambert, little caring for the presence of the Marquis de X., who was with him, cried: "Do I recognise you? I should think so indeed! You have often enough divided your soup with me when I was playing at the little Beaumarchais Theatre, and you of the orchestra, luckier than I, got some extra sous by giving lessons. I should think I do recognise you!" And Lambert threw himself into the old musician's arms and kissed him on both cheeks.

Although still under the shade of Thalia's temple, it is a long way from poor Lambert Thiboust to the last new thing on the Paris stage which has come to us across the Channel. For the last two months a life-sized portrait of an eminently fashionable young man, with a Derby hat, an eye-glass, screwed with considerable grimaces into one eye, and performing on his fingers some mysterious calculations, has stared at us from every wall and every boarding in Paris. No explanation, no advertisement accompanied the portrait, but the simple words "Lord Dundreary." Countless were the speculations raised about the incessantly recurring head, and even a fair amount of irritation was occasioned by the inability to know what the thing meant, and where the thing came from; the Paris *gamins* themselves were at a loss. At last, when curiosity and irritation had got to boiling point, the Italians flung open its doors one evening, and Lord Dundreary appeared. The house was full; English residents and visitors were there in full force, and were not enjoying it alone, for the rest of the audience followed the piece with French librettos, and were laughing and applauding in good earnest. Théophile Gautier and his daughter, who were present, were evidently immensely amused. The evening was a success, and although Sothorn, on the whole, was not well supported, the "American Cousin" was well played, and the charmingly pretty actress who impersonates Mary Meredith was much admired.—*E. de* * * *

JERUSALEM IN THE MARKET.—The *Moscow Gazette* publishes the following:—"The Belgrade correspondent of the *Golos* announces that, while the Turkish Council of Ministers was deliberating on the means of procuring money for the Sultan's voyage, one of the dignitaries proposed to sell Jerusalem to Russia. We do not know what truth there may be in that rumour, but everybody here is convinced that if this sale is not yet effected, it will take place. Negotiations on the subject are said to be in progress between General Ignatieff and Aali Pacha. The price of Jerusalem and Jaffa is supposed to be fixed at one hundred millions of piastres (twenty millions of francs)."



THE REAR-ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET GIVING ORDERS.

ADMIRAL WARDEN ON BOARD THE MINOTAUR.

OUR artist has given a sketch of Rear-Admiral Warden giving orders on board the flagship *Minotaur*. A magnificent fleet of iron-clads, representing different, not to say adverse principles of construction formed the starboard line at the Grand Naval Review. Almost every vessel, iron-clad and armour-plated, has its own peculiar history, from the mighty *Minotaur* to the double-bowed *Waterwitch* with its hydraulic machinery and unsightly hull. The iron liners show at a glance the progress made since the French built *La Gloire*, and Great Britain the famous *Warrior*. First in the starboard line, and heading this mighty division of modern men of war, lay the *Minotaur*, 1,621 tons, 34 guns, and 1,350 horse power, flagship of Rear-Admiral Warden, with steam up and cable shortened, ready for tripping on the signal being made to up with the anchor.

THE ICEBOUND IN THE WHITE SEA.—A letter from the British ambassador at St. Petersburg, dated July 11, states that the Minister of Marine there had received the following information from Archangel by telegraph:—"452 men of the crews had been brought in here from the various vessels imperilled in the ice, and twelve vessels of different nationalities have been saved. Up to the present time 125 merchant vessels have come in here. The *Etoile Polaire*, steamer, sent by the Ministry of Marine to seek for the vessels in danger, has just returned without having fallen in with any ships or crews whom she could have assisted." A telegram, dated the 17th of July, received at the Foreign Office from Mr. Consul Renny, states that the transports *Brenda* and *Montezuma* had arrived off Archangel, but could not enter the port on account of the lowness of the water on the bar. They had found no shipwrecked persons.

SPORTSMEN are now turning up at some of the shooting lodges, but in Scotland it is expected that there will this year be but indifferent sport. The epidemic among the grouse has proved so destructive upon some hills that there will be little shooting upon them this season. Certain moors are said to be so bad that there is not one bird for every ten upon them last year. In other districts, however, the tale is not quite so disheartening, but from the reports we have heard, now that the hills have in some measure been examined, there will, beyond doubt, be a great deficiency in birds.

THE INDIA OFFICE BALL.

WHATEVER may be thought of the theory that the India Office is especially bound to do the honours to the Sultan on his visit to England, there can be no question that it was a happy inspiration to give a ball at the India Office. No where else could such a fête have been given with anything like the same effect and splendour. A fortnight ago this magnificent ball-room had no existence even in imagination. The quadrangle of the India Office was then a rude, dirty chaos of mud, scaffoldings, piles of rough-hewn stone, and mounds of mortar. Could the Sultan have compared the aspect of the place then with that which it presented on this occasion, his admiration could hardly fail to have been enhanced by astonishment, and he would have discovered another illustration of the prompt enterprise and energetic action which distinguish our national character. The simplicity of the conception was, no doubt, as remarkable as the success with which it has been attended. The four walls were ready, and all that was wanted was a floor and a roof; but then that "all" constituted a formidable work to undertake in so short a space of time. It was done, however, but the work-people were still putting the finishing touches to their task when the first guests began to arrive. Mr. Digby Wyatt and Mr. Crace deserve the highest credit for the good taste of all the decorations—not merely for what they did, but for what they left undone. Crimson velvet hangings, fringed with gold, in the windows and the arches of the arcade on the first floor, and a blaze of light from innumerable chandeliers, candelabra, and long lines of gas in jets on the upper story showed off the rich ornamentation on the walls of the quadrangle, without hiding any of it. The elaborate sculpture of the frieze, the medallions of Indian generals and statesmen, the statues in niches, the mosaics, and the bright variety of coloured marbles, had an air of splendour which surprised any one who had observed the very poor effect they present in ordinary daylight. The roof was gaily painted in red and blue; a dais, curtained and canopied with crimson velvet studded with golden crescents, was erected at the upper end of the hall; and the band of the Coldstreams was placed in a projecting gallery at the side. Early in the evening the bare wooden floor was an incongruous feature in the brilliant scene, but it was quickly covered with an assemblage of guests which even outdid the rest of the hall in bravery of colour. There was a great variety of costume—statesmen and diplomats in gold-breasted coats of green or blue, members of Parliament and public officials in court suits, several Highlanders in plaid and kilt, the Duke of Argyll among the

number, a few Indian and Persian celebrities in native dress, and a fair sprinkling of yeomanry and volunteer officers in dark blue, dark green, or grey. But the two chief colours which stood out predominant in the brilliant crowd were crimson and white—the crimson tunics of the Guards and the Line and the ladies' white robes, decked of course with ribbons of every hue. High up, overhead, a large body of spectators in evening dress spent the night in a hot purgatory gazing on the delights of the blessed below.

A NIGHT IN THE CLOUDS.—Some details have arrived concerning the aerial voyage of M. Godard's balloon, which came down at five in the morning on Monday near Solingen, about ten leagues beyond Cologne, or somewhat over 300 miles from Paris, which city it had left the previous evening. The persons in the car were M. E. Godard and M. Flammarion. They passed the French frontier over Renof and went over Belgium to the right of Dinan, Namur, and Liège, arriving in Prussia by Aix-la-Chapelle. Prior to midnight, the sky was clear, but afterwards rain came on, and they saw nothing. When the sun rose they were about 2,600 metres above the earth, the thermometer marking only 35.3-5 Fahrenheit. As the balloon remained filled after the descent, the whole neighbourhood came to examine it, so that a sort of *Kermesse* was improvised, with booths for eating, drinking, and dancing, and stalls for the sale of tobacco, fruits, cakes, &c. The fête lasted until night. The aeronauts, after having at last let out the gas and secured the balloon, visited Cologne, and then proceeded to Brussels.

BISHOP HEBER'S GRAVE.—The Rev. T. Foulkes, chaplain of Vepery, Madras, when chaplain of Trichinopoly, found that the grave of Bishop Heber was marked only by four trowel lines in the chunam of the chancel floor, without an inscription, and without even a slab to cover it. A statue was erected to the bishop's memory in the cathedral of Calcutta and a similar one in Madras Cathedral; and a plain marble slab was placed on the wall of the chancel of the Trichinopoly Church, stating that he died at that station, but not where he was buried. Mr. Foulkes wishes to raise £68 for a memorial brass to be placed over the grave, and he has received half the sum. It is a sadly-interesting circumstance that Bishop Cotton sent a donation towards it from the yacht in which he was sailing a few days before he met with his own melancholy end—one similar to that of Bishop Heber.—*Homeward Mail*.

THE SIGHTS OF LONDON.

THEATRES.

DRURY LANE.—That Rascal Jack—(At Eight) The Great City.
 HAYMARKET.—The Love Chase—To Paris and Back for Five Pounds.—The Rifle and How to Use It. Seven.
 ADELPHI.—Gaiety in Sicily—(At Eight) The Lady of Lyons—A Slice of Luck. Seven.
 PRINCESS'S.—The Clockmaker's Hat—(At Eight) The Man o' Air. Half-past Seven.
 OLYMPIC.—The Lion—Human Nature—The Atrocious Criminal. Seven.
 ST. JAMES'S.—L'Amour que qu' c'est que ça—La Veuve au Camélia—L'Eclaircie. Quarter-past Eight.
 STRAND.—Reveries—The Latest Edition of Fra Diavolo. Half-past Seven.
 NEW ROYALTY.—Meg's Diversion—(At Half-past Nine) The Latest Edition of Black Eyed Susan—A Mistaken Story. Half-past Seven.
 NEW SURREY.—East Lynne—(At Seven) As You Like It.
 ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE AND CIRCUS.—A Comic Ballet—(At Eight) Scenes in the Arena—(Quarter to Nine) Grand Morning Performance every Saturday, commencing (at Half-past Two).

1.—FREE.

British Museum; Chelsea Hospital; Courts of Law and Justice; Docks; Dulwich Gallery; East India Museum, Fife House, Whitehall; Greenwich Hospital; Hampton Court Palace; Houses of Parliament; Kew Botanic Gardens and Pleasure Grounds; Museum of Economic Geology, Jermyn-street; National Gallery; National Portrait Gallery; Patent Museum, adjoining the South Kensington Museum; Soane's Museum, Lincoln's-inn-fields; Society of Arts' Exhibitions of Inventions (in the spring of every year); St. Paul's Cathedral; Westminster Abbey; Westminster Hall; Windsor Castle; Woolwich Dockyard and Repository.

2.—PAYMENT REQUIRED.

Crystal Palace, Sydenham; Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly; Gallery of Illustration, Regent-street; Royal Academy; British Institution; Society of British Artists; Water Colour Societies; Polytechnic Institution, Regent-street; Thames Tunnel; Tussaud's Waxwork, Baker-street Bazaar; Zoological Gardens.

3.—BY INTRODUCTION.

Antiquarian Society's Museum, Somerset House; Armourers' Museum, 81, Coleman-street; Asiatic Society's Museum, 6, New Burlington-street; Bank of England Museum (collection of coins); Botanical Society's Gardens and Museum, Regent's-park; College of Surgeons' Museum, Lincoln's-inn-fields; Guildhall Museum (old London antiquities); Linnean Society's Museum, Burlington House; Mint (process of coining), Tower-hill; Naval Museum, South Kensington; Royal Institution Museum, Albemarle-street; Trinity House Museum, Tower-hill; United Service Museum, Scotland-yard; Woolwich Arsenal.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

(All letters to be addressed to the Editor, 13, Catherine-street, Strand.)

P. L.—We have no leaning one way or the other. You need have no apprehension on the subject about which you write.

The Illustrated Weekly News.

SATURDAY, JULY 27, 1867.

(REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.)

THE PARKS FOR THE PEOPLE.

WHAT a kind, considerate, and paternal Government we have! They wish to keep the people out of the parks, but they propose to do it in such a delicate way. This is the phraseology with which they mask their battery. Mr. Hardy says he proposes to make the holding of public meetings in the Royal parks, without the permission of the Crown, unlawful assemblies punishable by fine and imprisonment. He has no desire to deal with this question in any political, sectarian, or religious character, but for the benefit of the working classes and all others; in order that the Royal parks may be thrown open and used as places for the general recreation of the people, and where the most timid may resort without the slightest fear of being interfered with.

The most timid ought to be very thankful to Mr. Hardy; but they will thank him for nothing, as any child can at any time walk in the parks without fear or trembling. In the debate on Monday night, when the Government carried the second reading of their bill, Mr. Taylor spoke bravely. There was no need and no right, he said, to limit the liberties of the people in any use they might please to make of the public parks. These parks were public, not Royal, property. The bill was designed to take away from the people a right of public meeting which they had actually possessed for a century. The people and their leaders had behaved well and wisely throughout; but the violence and lawlessness of the Government led to tumult and disorder. By shutting the gates last July, Ministers forced the people to crowd Park-lane, and the railings yielded to an accidental pressure; then, when the people found themselves in the park, they were attacked, chivied, beaten by the police, without warrant or excuse. Again this year, after ascertaining that the people had the right of meeting in the park, Government forbade them to meet, and threatened them with artillery and cavalry, police staves and bayonets, if they dared to disobey; and having been thus insulted and threatened, the people kept their temper admirably, and held a quiet and orderly meeting in despite of the efforts of Government to produce riot and outrage.

This is the simple truth, and the members of the Government have blushed to hear it. Mr. Mill did battle for the people in a way that conclusively shows there was wisdom in Westminster when that borough returned the philosopher to Parliament. All he was anxious for was that political meetings should be allowed to be held in the parks. And why? Because for centuries it had been the pride of this country, and one which in times past most distinguished it from the despotically-governed countries of the Continent, that every man had a right to peak his mind on political or any other

questions to those who would listen to him, wherever and whenever he would. Of course he had not the right to trespass upon private property; but wherever he had a right to be, there, according to the constitution of this country, he had a right to talk politics, whether to one person or to 50. He stood up for the right of this being done in the parks. The parks, it was said, are the property of the Crown. That meant that they are the property of Her Majesty's Government. No doubt they have the control of the parks, as they have the control of the thoroughfares and other public places. But that right of property is of limited extent. It is not pretended that the parks are the property of the Sovereign, in the same sense as Balmoral and Osborne are her property. They are a part of the hereditary property of the Crown which the Sovereign gave up to the nation in exchange for the civil list, and when they were so given up their uses were not limited to the special purposes which are not contended for—to walking, and riding, and what is called recreation. As long as the compact with Her Majesty exists, so long the parks are public property, to be managed for public uses at the public expense, appropriated according to the public interest. If there is any technical right of exclusion it must be for police purposes, for the security of the public property, and the safety of the public peace, not for the restriction of the public speech. The French Emperor says that not more than twenty persons shall meet in a drawing-room to talk politics without his leave. Our Government says that not more than 100,000 men shall meet in the open air to talk politics without theirs. Certainly there is a vast difference between the two. It is a thousand times better to seal up the parks than to seal up private houses. It is a thousand times better that the right of free speech should be confined to 100,000 persons than to twenty. But the principle is the same in both cases. What is the justification for imposing these new and arbitrary restrictions, which will equally apply to any large open-air meeting held without the consent of the Government as to the parks. The pretext is put forward that it is made for the public convenience. The reason for prohibiting these meetings in the parks is a feeling that it is not desirable that large public meetings should be held anywhere. We are told that threatening language is used at these meetings. In excited times strong language always will be held in a country which has inherited from its ancestors the right of public meeting. All places where numbers might congregate ought to be free and open for public meetings, of course taking the proper precautions for the security of the public peace. It is impossible for any public meeting to be convened in London without the Government having notice of it, and being able to take proper precautions by the assembling of any amount of force they think necessary to protect the public peace.

It behoves Englishmen to render every possible opposition to this bill, because it creates new rights in the Crown, and takes them from the subject; it gives the former a pernicious power of enforcing wrongs, and renders that a criminal offence which is at present only a civil injury. For the power of removal, inapplicable to a multitude, it substitutes the right of arrest; for the remedy by civil action for trespass it substitutes an indictment for unlawful assembly. In so doing it carries a great deal further the policy of the 57th George III., which forbids meetings to petition or overawe Parliament within a mile of Westminster Hall. We have always been taught that the right of public meeting is an Englishman's birth-right. Our ancestors fought long and well for the liberties we enjoy, and it will be hard if we are robbed of any one right by a criminal apathy which will allow the enemies of the people who tried to annihilate the Reform Bill—such as it is—to steal a march upon us. The people have met in the parks in spite of police and Horse Guards, and we venture to predict that they will meet there again whenever it is their sovereign pleasure to do so, in spite of this iniquitous measure, which must never be allowed to become law.

AFFAIRS IN CRETE.

FROM time to time, but unfortunately at rare intervals, the *Morning Post* publishes very valuable military correspondence from Crete, apparently written by an officer accompanying or serving on the staff of the Turkish Commander-in-Chief; whom, moreover, we may conjecture to be either a genuine Englishman, or else a foreigner well acquainted with our speech and its ways, to judge by his transcription of doubtful sounds in Greek names. One of these letters appeared a few days ago. This gave a very clear and intelligible account of Omar Pasha's operations against the valley of Lasithi. With the help of Spratt's Admiralty chart every line of this comes out with entire accuracy; the two documents forming most satisfactory vouchers for each other. The insurgents do not appear to have defended the outer face or wall of the mountain basin against the Turkish advance, but to have taken their stand in preference at a succession of villages within the valley which afforded the strongest defensible positions. The strictly Cretan portion of the insurgent force seems to have melted away after each Turkish success, as might have been expected; what became of the nucleus of Greek volunteers round which the Cretans rallied does not appear. The insurgent losses, which we thought at the time to have been much exaggerated in the Turkish telegram which announced the capture of Lasithi, are stated at the same amount in the present letter, and appear to be given on the authority of a Greek officer who fell into the hands of the Turks, aide-de-camp to one General Bouyouklidis—the son of the Moustached One. We presume these must be Greek officers, for Cretan mountaineers know nothing about aides-de-camp. All this fighting, however, does not seem to have been absolutely decisive as regards the unmolested occupation of Lasithi by the Turks.

A NEW anæsthetic has come into fashion of late: it is quadrichloride of carbon, which possesses an agreeable smell of quinces, and can produce insensibility in less than a minute. This insensibility may be maintained with or without loss of consciousness; its effects cease speedily when desired, and are not followed by vomiting. It has also been successfully used for obstinate headache.

PUBLIC OPINION.

THE PRE-PREFERENCE BILLS IN THE LORDS.

A COMMITTEE has at length been appointed by the House of Lords to deal with the applications of several railways for extraordinary power to create pre-preference stocks. The committee consists of the Duke of Cleveland as chairman, with Lords Exeter, Warwick, Vernon, and Houghton, and will meet for the first time next Monday. The question at issue involves a great principle, not only in railway management, but in vested rights generally. The boards of the different railways concerned apply for authority from Parliament to set aside the priority of claim assigned by previous Acts to the holders of preference stocks, and to give that priority to new "pre-preference" stocks. The proposition is in effect to reduce the existing preference stocks to the position of ordinary stocks of the first class, the existing ordinary stocks being in turn reduced to the condition of ordinary stock of the second class. The defence, or rather the excuse, of this appeal to Parliament to upset the existing law of contract as already defined by Parliament is the insolvency of the companies; which means the mismanagement and extravagance of the directors. It must be borne in mind that these bills propose to carry an *ex post facto* law; and that is a principle which Parliament very rarely sanctions. Certain rights, given absolutely to existing shareholders, are to be annulled. If it be asked how the debts which have brought this state of things about have been contracted, the answer must be that they have been contracted illegally; for they are in excess of the borrowing powers sanctioned by law. And if further it be asked by whose instrumentality were these debts contracted, the answer is, avowedly by the directors, acting as the representatives of ordinary stockholders. It must be remembered that it is only by exception if the preference stock-holders have a power of voting at any general meetings of their company. The holders of ordinary stock, too, have a certain monopoly of the speculative advantages of the company. When the Birmingham and Great Western stocks stood at 250, and the original investments of ordinary stock-holders were more than doubled in value, preference stocks would still have been but little above par. The class of persons who reap these contingent benefits at one time must bear the contingent loss at another, if loss there really be. The House of Lords appear to be agreed that this principle must be applied to the bills now before them, unless some method, not yet hit upon, can be devised consistent with justice.—*Pull Mall Gazette*.

LORD DERBY AND MR. DISRAELI.

LORD Derby's position is like that of the respectable baronet or member of Parliament who is always put into the chair of a bubble company, in order to give character to the concern. In these cases, one of the greatest difficulties always is to determine how far the show figure-head has been conscious of the sharp practice that has been going on around him. However that question may be decided, Lord Derby's aid has been invaluable. The world has always agreed to believe him "chivalrous." He has had none of the prejudice to contend against that has embarrassed his brilliant lieutenant. Whatever his conduct may be, he can speak with singular plausibility, and always addresses the House of Peers in a strain of what seems to be lofty morality. Yet his scruples have never yet caused any embarrassment to his Chancellor of the Exchequer. Probably there is no better preparation for a hearty and effective co-operation with Mr. Disraeli than a long life spent, even though it has been as honourably spent as Lord Derby's, upon the turf. It will be curious to watch whether, after the events of the last two years, Lord Derby will retain his reputation for chivalry. In the meantime the moral of the discreditable story is that a Cabinet full of honourable men, chiefly mediocrities, is no sort of guarantee against the tricks of one or two unscrupulous and clever men among them. In Downing-street political craft is a good deal more catching than political honesty.—*Saturday Review*.

LORD CRANBORNE.

LORD Cranborne's last speech on the Reform Bill marks the complete stage of transformation from the caustic, sarcastic, half-objectless criticism of the putative *Saturday Reviewer*—criticism which wounds or slays without winning a victory, because it is so difficult to say on behalf of what principle the sharp thrusts are delivered—to the high aristocratic sense of power, honour, and responsibility, whose strength lies in a grand self-reliance and a noble self-esteem. There was a captiousness and contradiction about Lord Cranborne's old parliamentary style which we miss altogether from his recent speeches. These speeches are certainly not wanting in severity of tone; but their severity is of a kind which applies as strict a standard of criticism to the speaker's own conduct as it applies to those whom he assails. It is a severity deriving directly from self-respect, whereas his old severity seemed to derive chiefly from a contemptuous intellectual judgment. Judged by his speeches of this season no speaker in either House represents so admirably the best elements of Tory aristocracy. Lord Derby, compared with Lord Cranborne, represents aristocratic temperament only, without any fixed basis of thought. Lord Stanley does not properly represent the aristocratic caste at all, but only the caution of a long-headed statesman, identified with it by ties of interest and of family, and who is far too prudent to meddle with the foundations of any institution so firmly planted and so agreeable to himself. Lord Ellenborough may represent aristocratic Toryism of a more chivalric and Lord Carnarvon of a more spiritual and ecclesiastical type. But no one in either House has of late years expressed its inner creed with so much intellectual force and moral dignity, with so profound a sense of capacity to govern, and of duty to the governed, with so sincere a dislike to the popular spirit, and yet so strong a feeling that, in place of the yoke of the people, a self-imposed yoke of yet higher obligation must be substituted—in a word, with so much at once of the exclusive and therefore mischievous spirit of political caste, and yet so much also of the self-exacting and self-respecting spirit by which alone a political caste can, even for a time, be kept potent or even alive.—*Spectator*.

THE SOCIAL PRIVILEGES OF M.P.'S.

WE are glad that the House of Commons declined to follow Mr. Sheridan in his complaints about the distribution of tickets for the India Office Ball, because no deliberative assembly can afford to condescend to these petty and vulgar discussions, which choke one with the fumes of snobbery and social self-seeking. The ball, it is true, was conceived upon an awkward and absurd principle. There are many Mahometans in India, but none of them pay particular attention to the Sultan of Turkey, or feel especially associated with his honour and dignity. Any advantage that can be gained by an Indian compliment to the Sultan is trifling compared with those which are obtained from the Pasha of Egypt. But all this has nothing whatever to do with Mr. Sheridan's argument. He spoke for members of the House who had not been invited to the ball, and it must be obvious to every one that the "tolling millions" of India, if they have been wronged, would not have been righted if every member of both Houses of Parliament had been invited to the ball. Members ought to learn that they cannot afford to exhibit too much eagerness for the social privileges attached to their position. Hunger for cards and invitations is the commonest mark of the very last disposition that should animate members of Parliament; and there will be no disguising from the country the frivolous character of many of its representatives if Governments are to be seriously called upon in debate to produce their lists of invitations and to canvass the claims of this man and that to cards for State ceremonies. Such things ought to be left to provincial aldermen and town councillors.—*Star*.

THE EXECUTION OF MAXIMILIAN.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe may be sure that the public will do justice to the generous feelings which inspired his resolution, although the expediency of recording a formal censure of the execution has not been admitted. We may believe that the original adventure was unjustifiable, and that its progress was marked by deeds unworthy of the character of their author; but having done justice to this conviction, we may freely admit the private worth and the good intentions of the unfortunate Prince, and cannot but regret profoundly that the Mexicans, in the hour of success, had not the magnanimity to rise above the petty feelings which led them to take vengeance upon a prostrate and captive enemy.—*Daily News*.

THE LAST BANK RETURN.

Though the Bank of England did not reduce their rate of discount on Thursday, the account which they publish would well have justified it. The reserve of notes and coin in the banking department is considerably more than half the liabilities. The other securities are actually less than they were two years ago, while the means of the Bank have augmented very largely in the two years. In round numbers the Bank of England have six millions sterling more than two years ago, and lend three millions less. The demand, too, at the discount office is falling off, and everything tends toward cheaper money. We do not blame the Bank directors for not reducing the rate of discount. In the present state of the market, they may be well allowed to act as they think best. But in Lombard-street the value of money is now 3 per cent. at least under the Bank rate, and all experience shows that so great a difference can never be maintained between the Bank and the market; and the lower the rate the sooner capital will go abroad and be employed, and so this depression in the value of money come to an end.—*Economist*.

THE LORDS AND REFORM.

We trust that Lord Grey will see the propriety of abstaining from pressing his resolution, not because it is certain to be negatived if pressed, nor because it is wholly uncalculated for, but because an attempt to press it would only add another to the tactical errors which have marked the conduct of the Reform campaign. Lord Grey's resolution fails to specify a single fault in the present bill, and, of course, mentions no alternative plan. The proposition is so vague that it might be supported by any one,—by those who thought the bill too narrow, as well as by those who thought it too democratic; but, being thus vague, the House of Lords cannot assent to it at all. That House is a co-ordinate branch of the Legislature. It is bound to sit in judgment on measures brought to it from the Commons, and to examine them in detail as well as to criticise their general scope and effect. It is certain that there no amendment can be suggested within the range of prudent action which would not be seriously entertained by the House of Commons, and it is more than probable that there are some modifications of the bill sent to the Upper House which would be accepted with gratitude on its return to the Commons. In order, however, that the House of Lords may discharge its duties efficiently it is essential that its energy should not be dissipated in fruitless debates.—*Times*.

ENGLAND AND TURKEY.

It is not possible that England should feel any keen sympathy with the fortunes of the Turkish Government. The Sultan's own share of responsibility for the treatment of his Christian subjects may be very small; and he has indisputable claims on us in virtue of the treaties we have entered into with his predecessors. But the system he represents is one which can at best only be endured. Our whole recent policy towards Turkey has been of a hand-to-mouth kind. We have wished to keep the Russians out of Constantinople, and the most vulgarly obvious way of doing this has been to keep the Turks in it. But the civilised West cannot be trusted to form a perpetual combination for the maintenance of an Oriental despotism on the Bosphorus. Nor is there, even as a matter of policy, any reason why it should do so. The Turks are not the only possible occupants of South Eastern Europe, and it may well be doubted whether the establishment of a Christian State, or group of States, in that region would not better secure all the ends which are answered by the maintenance of Turkey. The fact that we are committed, both by interest and honour, to defend Turkey against attack from a particular quarter, is a perfectly different thing from an undertaking to protect her against those internal forces which, if left to their unchecked action, must gradually break up her empire in Europe. It may seem uncourteous to recall this distinction at the moment when we are entertaining the Sultan; but want of courtesy is better than want of candour, and hospitalities which really mean very little ought not to be spoken of as though they meant a great deal.—*Chronicle*.

THE DERIVATION OF CHIGNONS.—When did the word chignon come into French and into English? The article itself was used in much earlier days than our own, but had then a different name. "Mundus Muliebris" in 1690 describes the affair exactly:—

Behind the noddle every baggage

Wears bundle *choux*, in English, cabbage.

It would be monstrous to say that all young ladies who stick knobs behind their noddle are baggages, but we submit that *choux* is the very word for the said knobs. Only if the re-introduction of head-cabbages had called them *choux*, what girl would have worn them? None. Therefore, let those who want to send chignons after crinolines, regularly call these bundles cabbages, and they'll succeed. Mr. Fairholt's definition of the *choux* is "the great round boss, or bundle of hair, worn at the back of the head, and resembling a cabbage, from whence the French gave it that name." Cotgrave in 1611 translates "chignon" "the chyne, or chynepiece of the necke; also, a knot or knurre in a peece of wood or timber."

THE BLACK COUNTRY.—The Black Country will soon lose its unenviable title if a plan now carried out at Lord Granville's works near Hanley is generally adopted. The mouths of the short chimneys or cupolas of the blast furnaces are closed, and the smoke and gas are carried down and brought round by means of iron pipes to the fireplace of the engine which keeps up the blast. These pipes discharge just in front of a small bright coke fire, in passing over which their contents get kindled, and so feed the engine. Thus the saving in fuel is immense, the fire in the smelting furnace being made to do almost double duty, and the consumption of smoke is a gain to all concerned. Probably the plan admits of extension, so that by-and-by Acts for forcing manufacturers to consume their own smoke may not be quite such a dead letter as they have hitherto been. One difficulty remains untouched. A great nuisance in the Black Country arises from the combustion of the bituminous ironstone, some of which will burn away without fuel when once well lighted. The smoke from this, scarcely containing any carbon, is most offensive and unwholesome. But how to collect it for re-combustion must always be a hard matter.

PARIS EXHIBITION.—Gentlemen, before starting for the Continent, should go to JONES & CO'S, 73, Long Acre, and purchase one of their Half-Guinea Hats (the Hamilton), new shape, which, for style and durability cannot be equalled. Jones & Co. Manufacturers, 73, Long Acre.—[ADVT.]

In consequence of the Reduction in Duty, Horniman's Tea are now supplied by the Agents, Eight-pence per lb. cheaper. Every Genuine Packet is signed "Horniman and Co."—[ADVT.]

CARDS FOR THE MILLION.—A Copper-Plate Engraved (and style), and Fifty Best Cards Printed, with Card Case included, for 2s. Sent post free by ARTHUR GRANGER, the noted Cheap Stationer, 308, High Holborn, and the New Borough Bazaar, 95, S.E.—[ADVT.]

A YOUNG WOMAN DROWNED IN THE PRESENCE OF MANY SPECTATORS.

SHORTLY after noon on Friday a very sad case of drowning took place at the Stannegate, by which a young woman lost her life. Between twelve and one o'clock two young women, named Helen Henderson and Sarah Salmond, residing in the Overgate, went to Stannegate for the purpose of bathing. The girl Salmond, after partially undressing, went into the water, her companion remaining on shore. Opposite the place where the accident happened there is a small provision shop, kept by Mrs. Miller, who furnished the following account of the event. We give it in her own words:—"The girls came to my shop before bathing and got a bottle of ale. Salmond said she thought she could drink three, she was so thirsty. About twelve o'clock she took off her clothes and went into the water. She dived two or three times and amused herself. She had been some time in the water before I paid any particular attention. I looked on for a little. I saw her go over the head, and when she came up she staggered. I thought something was the matter. She struggled with her hands and rolled over and over. She cried out, 'Oh, Nelly, come and help me,' and then three times said, 'God bless me!' The girl Henderson never minded, and I then heard a loud gurgle in her throat. I ran down to the water, thinking I would reach her, but I found I could not do so. When I saw this I went for a rope, and stripped a little boy, meaning him to go to the assistance of the girl. He was, however, afraid, and would not go in. I think he was afraid of the way in which she was rolling and tumbling. The girl who was with Salmond was just looking on. I threw the rope out, and cried to her to take hold of it, but I believe she could not hear me by this time. This was about half-past twelve o'clock. One man was standing by, but he would not go in, and another man who came from the east said he could once swim, but would not venture now. All this time the girl was struggling. Nobody would venture, and you would have thought the half of Dundee was down here. Most of them were boys from twelve to fourteen, but there were a lot of men, and if I asked one I asked a dozen. Of course I did not know the lassie, but I was sorry that she should be drowned before our eyes. She then floated away with the tide, with her face upwards, but never sank. At this time a person came past. He said he would go to the Stannegate and tell the salmon-fishers. Of course this would take him about half an hour. The body was still floating, but there was nothing to show life. Two fishermen came up with a boat and took hold of the body, dragging it ashore by the arm. A boy stripped and helped the girl out. I got a sheet and rolled her into it, and she was laid at the back of my house on a mattress. By this time she had been in the water more than three-quarters of an hour, so that nothing could be done for her, as she was quite dead." The statement given above needs no supplement.—*Dundee Advertiser*.

WHO IS TO BLAME?—"W. J. Taylor" writes to the *Times* to admit that the inscription on the medal delivered by the Prince of Wales to the Belgians at Wimbledon actually was "Vive la Belgique;" that immediately on the discovery of the mistake a new medal was put in hand; and that notice has been sent to the committee and to the head-quarters of the Belgian volunteers intimating that the first issue of medals would be exchanged for corrected ones.

A CURIOUS CASE.—The keeper of a gentleman who has, during the last six weeks, lost upwards of 300 young pheasants, from no apparent disease, has at last discovered the cause of the evil, which is as follows:—The young pheasants had been placed in a meadow in which a large number of sheep had preceded them; whilst there the sheep had shed a quantity of their wool, and the pheasants had swallowed it. The keeper writes: "I have opened forty or fifty young birds, and found the gizzards quite full of wool, and the passage stopped up so that no food could pass. After the birds are dead they turn quite black. I never had a better lot of young birds, and now I have lost nearly all of them."

NAVAL SURGEONS.—The *Lancet* comments upon the insufficient number of naval surgeons now in the service. In a fleet of thirty-one men-of-war assembled for review last week at Portsmouth, there were but forty-two medical officers—their regular complement being seventy-six; and in sixteen gunboats, each of which ought on active service to carry an assistant-surgeon, only two had such officers on board, the Admiralty not being in a position to afford a fuller supply of medical assistance at present.

QUITE RIGHT.—The Duke of Buckingham announced, in reply to a question put by Earl Russell, that he had ordered the Governor of Jamaica to remove from the administration of justice in that island Mr. Purcell, a barrister recently sent out thither as district judge, who, whilst officiating in his own court, had made a most indecent attack upon the charge of Lord Chief Justice Cockburn to the jury in the case of Colonel Nelson. Lord Cranworth, Lord Cairns, the Earl of Carnarvon, and the Lord Chancellor expressed their entire approval of the step taken by the duke, and warmly defended the conduct of the Lord Chief Justice, which was, on the other hand, condemned by Lords Denman and Melville.

A SUBSTITUTE FOR GOLD.—It is stated that an American has discovered a beautiful alloy, which has been most successfully applied as a substitute for gold: it is composed of pure copper, 100 parts; pure tin, 17 parts; magnesia, 6 parts; tartar of commerce, 9 parts; sal ammoniac, 36 parts; and quicklime, 16 parts. The copper is first melted, then the lime, magnesia, sal ammoniac, and tartar are added, little at a time, and the whole is briskly stirred for about half an hour, so as to mix thoroughly, after which tin is thrown on the surface in small grains, stirring until entirely fused. The crucible is now covered, and the fusion kept up for about thirty-five minutes, when the dross is skimmed off, and the alloy found ready for use. It is quite malleable and ductile, and may be drawn, stamped, chased, beaten into powder or into leaves, like gold leaf. In all of which conditions it is not distinguishable from gold, even by good judges, except by its inferior weight. The alloy has already been largely applied in the United States, and requires only to be known in Great Britain to become a general favourite.—*Engineer*.

A "REVIVAL" MEETING.—On Tuesday evening a series of revival services were begun at Braemar. Among those taking part in them were the Earl of Cavan, Mr. Gordon of Park Hill, R. Cunningham, "the famed Glasgow shoer," &c. Our correspondent writes as follows, regarding Mr. Cunningham's appearance:—"His thundering, raving denunciations of future punishment to the sinner, and wild pathetic appeals to return, repent, and be saved, accompanied with fearfully violent gestures, were frequently and noisily interrupted by jeers, shouts, hooting, and howling exclamations from the crowd that speedily gathered around the highly-exalted orator. At times his voice, even powerful and stentorian as it was, could scarcely be heard, and the confusion was much heightened for a few minutes by a stalwart bearded musician striking up a lilting strathspey on the bagpipes. He was relieved by another preacher, who evidently appeared to be his companion, but who unfortunately met with no better success in pleasing the motley assemblage, which seemed bent on distracting the speaker with questions and shouting. After prayer, Mr. Cunningham again mounted the temporary rostrum, and tried hard to make himself heard, yelling more fiercely than on his first attempt. It was no use. His appearance even seemed to be a signal to incense the crowd to greater noise than ever, and abusive epithets were freely hurled at him, but which he bore with composed fortitude. He was then unceremoniously jostled at once from his perch by the crowd, who lustily cheered at the abrupt and sudden descent. At the conclusion of the service a liberal distribution of tracts was made by Mr. Cunningham amongst his noisy, turbulent audience.—*Dundee Advertiser*.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—The season is drawing fast to a close. On Tuesday the subscription terminated with Mozart's "Flauto Magico," the first time of performance this year, with Mdlle. Nilsson as Astrafante, the Queen of Night, and Mdlle. Titiens as Pamina, her first appearance in that character. On Thursday Cherubini's grand opera "Medea" was revived for Mdlle. Titiens. In all probability both operas will be introduced in the series of cheap performances which Mr. Mapleson is in the habit of dedicating to the general public, when the subscribers and regular habitués of the theatre have fled from the London streets in the dog-days to gather health on the Scotch hills, on the Continent, or at Goodwood. Mdlle. Nilsson is due at the Théâtre-Lyrique on the 15th August, so that the general public should be advised to go and hear her while they have a chance.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—"Romeo e Giulietta" has lost none of its attractions, but rather continues to increase in public favour with each repetition. A good deal of the sensation it has created, no doubt must be attributed to the acting of Mdlle. Adelina Patti and Signor Mario. Still the fact remains undisturbed—M. Gounod's new opera increases in attraction nightly. "Romeo e Giulietta" was performed twice last week—Tuesday evening and on Saturday, when the season was brought to a termination.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—The summer season, under the direction of Mr. George Vining, having been brought to a close on Thursday last, the theatre has been taken for a limited period by the popular comedian Mr. Hermann Vezin, who accordingly entered on his managerial career on Saturday, after an interregnum of one evening, and introduced a new drama entitled "The Man o' Airlie." In the present scarcity of good actors—more especially good actors in the serious line—it is somewhat surprising that so sterling an artist as Mr. Hermann Vezin should be overlooked by managers of our theatres; and, in order to appear on the boards at all, that he should be compelled, as it were, to become a manager on his own account, and engage himself. The new drama had a great and legitimate success, and there is no doubt that it will bring Mr. Hermann Vezin through his brief season at the Princess's triumphantly. Every lover of what is pure and unaffected in dramatic writing should see "The Man o' Airlie"; and every admirer of sterling natural acting should see Mr. Vezin in the part of James Harbottle.

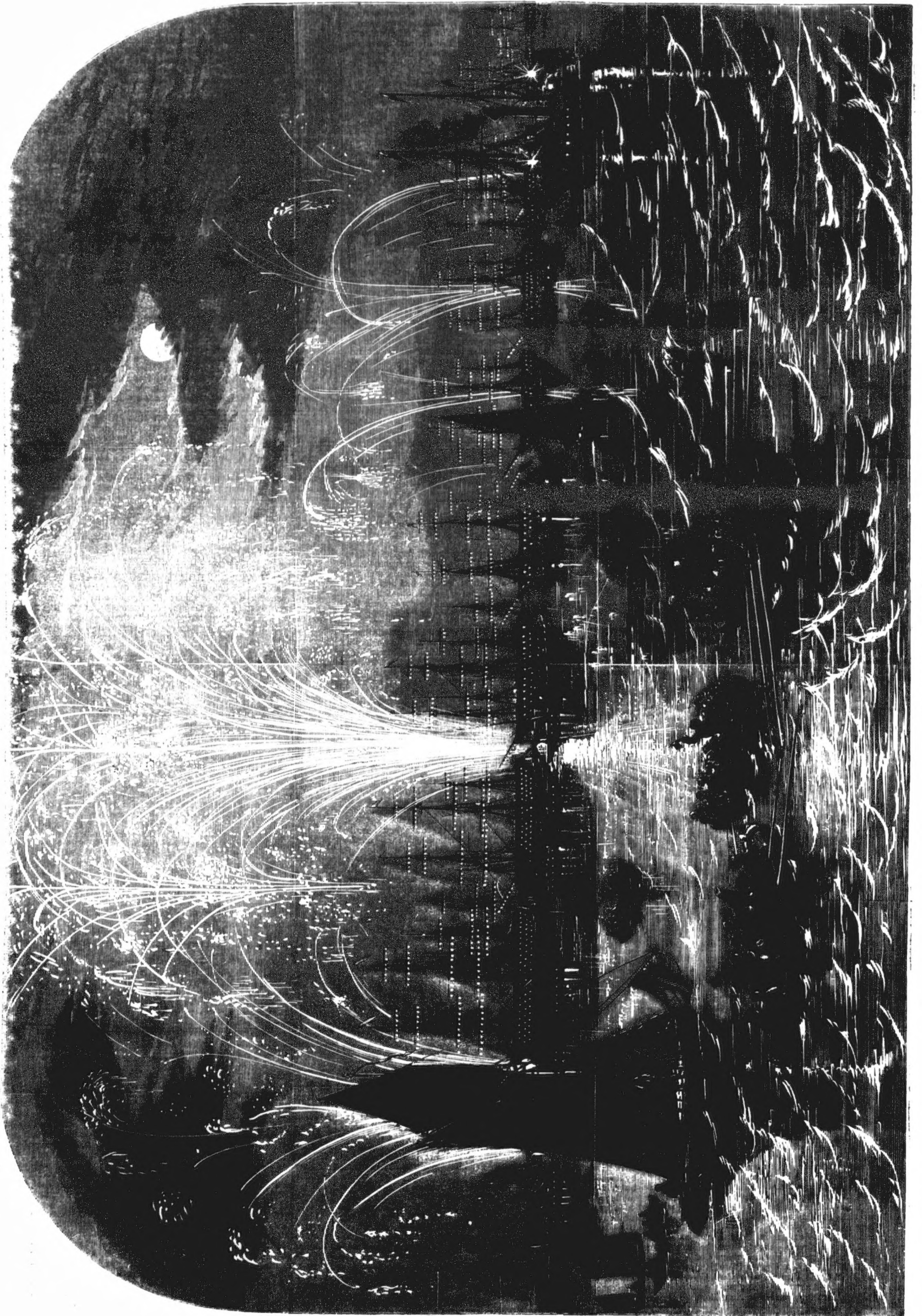
CRYSTAL PALACE.—The "Ninth Grand Opera Concert" and last of the series was given on Saturday, when Mr. Manns, the conductor, made out a very attractive programme, and one in which the singers were allowed the best possible opportunity of shining. The artists were again of Her Majesty's Theatre, and, with two or three exceptions, included the *crème* of that establishment. Nearly every piece was received with especial favour, and the audience was unusually demonstrative in its applause. The choir was in great force, more particularly the choir of Her Majesty's Theatre, who were encored in the chorus from "I Lombardi" and "The Soldiers' Chorus" from "Faust." To-day an "extra" grand concert will be given, when Mdlle. Nilsson will appear, with other artists from Her Majesty's Theatre. This, in reality, will be the last opera concert of the season.

THE SULTAN AT THE HORTICULTURAL GARDENS.

THE Duke of Buccleuch, President of the Royal Horticultural Society, gave a special conversation on Monday evening in honour of the Sultan. If the present Sultan, going about incognito, like Haroun Alraschid, had happened to drop into the gardens at any time between nine and half-past eleven, the scene of wild excitement might have been too much for him. For more than two hours and a half did a large assemblage of fellows and their wives and daughters, with some invited guests, indulge in the boundless extravagance of staring at one another and wondering when, if ever, the Padishah would come. Weippart's band played common-place tunes, and the band of the Coldstreams, under Mr. Fred. Goffrey, followed suit at intervals with a selection which might have been better, but which had the disadvantage of being audible only by snatches to those in the conservatory. Many false alarms, caused by some member of the council in a white tie madly hurrying nowhere in particular, served partly to while away the weary hours. But at length the Sultan did come. He was escorted from Stafford House by a detachment of Life Guards, and was received at the entrance in Prince Albert's-road by the Duke of Buccleuch and Lord Henry Lennox, with other members of the council. His Majesty, who was accompanied by the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Cambridge had been preceded a few minutes only by the Prince of Teck and Princess Mary, and on his entrance, which took place at ten minutes to twelve, was escorted to the first landing of the double flight of steps that lead to the galleries of the conservatory. Here three chairs of state were placed, and here, after his Majesty had taken a tour of, and duly admired the building and its myriads of creeping plants, he took his seat, having on his right the Prince of Wales and on his left Prince Yussouf and the Duke of Cambridge. The Duchess of Buccleuch, who had the honour of being introduced, sat on the right of the Prince of Wales. As soon as time had been given for the due admiration of the conservatory, in which was merely the usual preparation for Horticultural conversation, a signal was given, and the grounds, which had been made very pretty by tiny coloured oil lamps, following the outlines of the beds, and Chinese lanterns hanging from such trees as the gardens can boast, on a sudden broke out into a blaze from several hundred Bengal lights, each of which was held at arm's length by a guardsman. The line of lights extended all round the upper terraces; and the base of the Albert Memorial had several rows. Taken altogether the effect was very good, and appeared to give much pleasure to his Majesty and the numerous suite by whom he had been attended to the gardens. Supper was provided for his Majesty in the gallery, and after remaining about three-quarters of an hour the Sultan returned to Buckingham Palace, escorted as on his arrival at South Kensington.

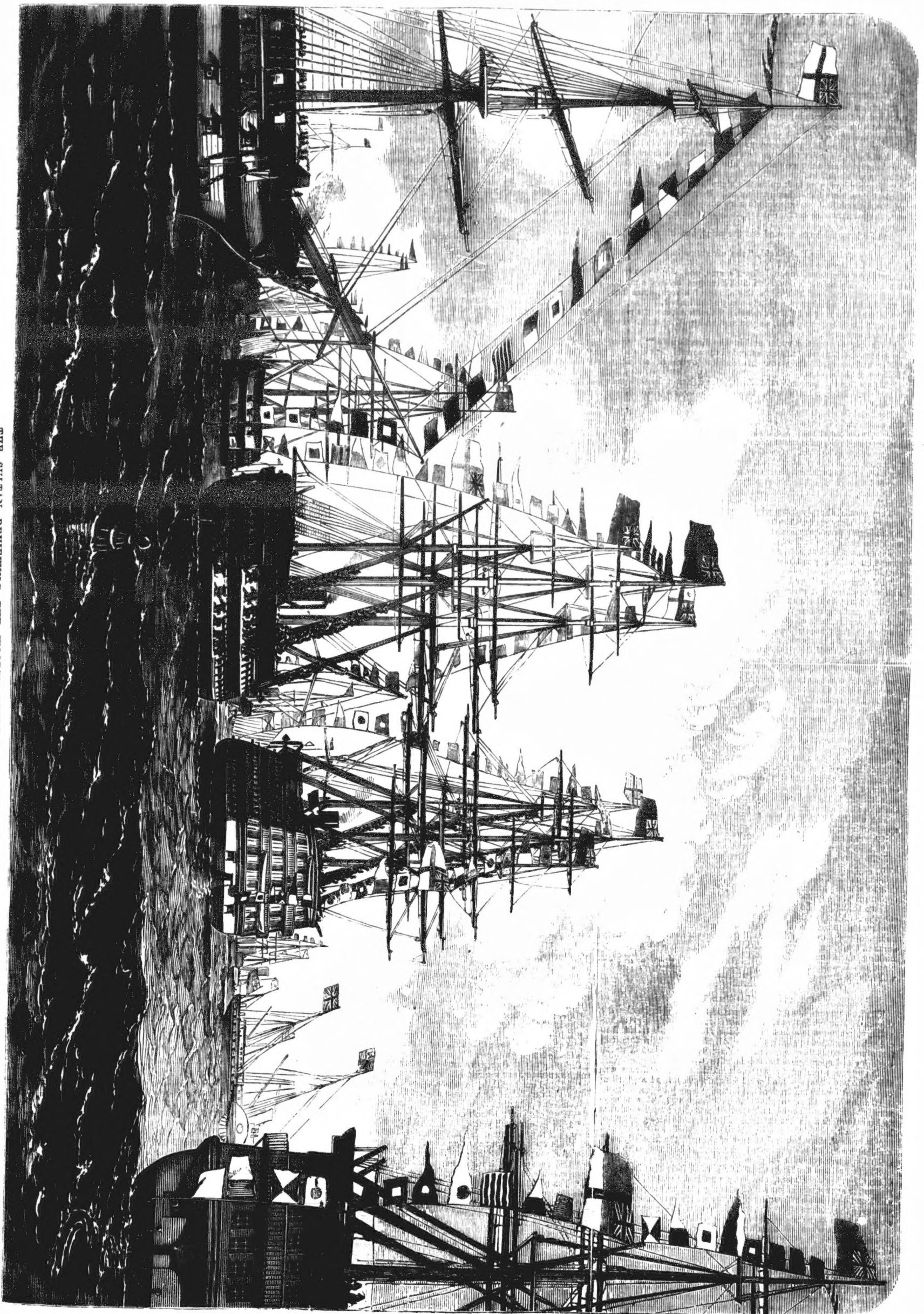
WHALLEY AGAIN.—Mr. Whalley complained to the House that the Roman Catholic rioters in Birmingham had not been sufficiently trounced by the magistrates, and stated that a society had been formed in Birmingham, styling itself a Mutual Protection Association, for the purpose of self-defence against the physical as well as the spiritual aggressions of the Church of Rome. "Already," said the hon. member, "has a case occurred in which a conscientious Protestant has shot a Roman Catholic." Mr. Whalley disapproves, however, of such extreme measures, and thinks it would be better if the right to bring under public discussion the doctrines and practices of the Roman Catholic Church was maintained by the Executive in a more decided and spirited manner. Mr. Hardy administered a few words of comfort and hope to the deploring senator.

GENERAL JACKSON.—The Hon. John Letcher, who was the governor of Virginia at the time of the Southern Rebellion, has recently stated that for a long time, and up to the defeat by him of Fremont at Cross Keys, Stonewall Jackson was regarded by President Davis, the Cabinet, and many military men, as little better than a lunatic. This belief had gone so far, and so many complaints were lodged by subordinates against this finest genius of the war, that General Jackson sent his resignation to the President, which was only not accepted because it was pocketed by Mr. Letcher, who further induced the general to withdraw it.



ILLUMINATION OF THE FLEET.

THE SULTAN REVIEWING THE WOODEN VESSELS AT SPITHEAD.



Dead Acre:

A CHAIN OF EVIDENCE.

BY CHARLES H. ROSS.

Part the Third.

THE STRUGGLE AT LAST.

CHAPTER XI.—(CONTINUED).—A FACE IN A CROWD.

"THERE is another reason, too. It cannot, I feel certain, be managed without bringing us in contact with that girl. It is this thought which has many times, often at our happiest moments, crossed me like a dreadful phantom. Dear John, we will not go near her. Let her enjoy the money. Let her do what she chooses, so that she keeps away from us and we never see her more, for I feel in my heart that as surely as she crosses our path some calamity will befall us."

"My poor love, you look quite frightened, and you are trembling. There is no fear of her hurting us. How could she? After all, too, I think that our suspicions were quite groundless and we were very unfair with her. We had no facts to go upon you must allow."

And Jack would have argued out the point, but his companion stopped him.

"Let us go indoors," she said, "the air seems to have turned chilly. Look—who is that?"

Her fingers tightened upon Jeffcoat's arm, and she came to a standstill. Following the direction of her eyes he saw a man's slouching figure half hidden in the shade of a rock, some ten yards distance, which moved slowly away as he looked.

"What is the matter?" Jack asked. "I do not know the man. Do you? It is growing cold, as you say, and getting dark. Let us hasten our steps."

Their way lay up the rocks and in the direction that the man had taken, and presently as they ascended the roughly hewn stairs, and looked upwards they saw his outline overhead standing black against the sky.

"He's a fine tall fellow," said Jack, "and has a large beard seemingly. I don't know him, though. Some Frenchman, of course."

The hotel in which they lodged—the best—was in the heart of the town, and to reach it they had worked their way by a long, narrow, winding street. Ruth walked but slowly, and when they had mounted the stairs the man's figure they had before noticed was nowhere to be seen. On their way to the hotel, however, they once fancied they caught a glimpse of it in the distance peering back at them round a short corner.

"If I thought the fellow was playing the spy on us I'd call him to account," said Jack; "but he has gone on now. Stay, let us try him."

They turned sharply down a bye-street, and walked briskly some twenty or thirty yards, then turned and walked back again. Coming suddenly round the corner into the street they met the man with the beard face to face.

Jack stared hard at him, and he seemed to flinch a little, but he passed on with a good assumption of carelessness, and walked past.

"I do know him," said Jack. "I'll stake my life I've seen him somewhere, but where is more than I can remember."

All the way to the hotel he was puzzling himself with this question, and regretting that he had not addressed the stranger, and, if possible, settled the difficulty at once. When they had gone up to their rooms Jack came down again to make some inquiries about a carriage for next day, and in the courtyard once more found himself facing the stranger.

At sight of Jeffcoat the man made a sort of half-movement, as though he would have escaped, but seeming to conclude that such a course was not advisable, plunged hastily after his pocket-handkerchief, and hid as much as possible of his face within its folds. The portion of his face thus concealed was, of course, the lower, and as he stood with his great beard hidden, Jeffcoat looking at him, saw the likeness he had before noticed stronger than ever, yet was in doubt where he had previously seen the face. Again he was tempted to address the person who, he could not help thinking had been dogging his footsteps, but his old habit of caution taught him that it would be the wiser plan to affect not to have noticed the other's presence, and be upon his guard. Therefore, hanging about the courtyard, he waited until the owner of the beard took his departure, which he did up the staircase leading to the bedrooms. Then, turning to a waiter, he asked the name of monsieur.

The waiter had not observed. His figure by this time had disappeared round the corner. "What sort of a gentleman was he?"

"A gentleman with a big beard."

"There were so many with big beards."

Jeffcoat tried to explain, but the waiter was dull and in a hurry, for a bell kept ringing loudly while the English gentleman talked. At last Jack gave the matter up as a bad job, thinking that he would pursue his inquiries upon some more favourable opportunity.

From that time, however, he saw no more of the mysterious stranger. All next day and the next he waited and wondered. He expected to see him at the *table d'hôte*, breakfast or dinner, but he was disappointed. While walking on the sands he several times scanned the horizon eagerly with his field glass, but could see nothing of the bearded gentleman.

"The fellow has taken his departure," thought Jeffcoat, "and I will trouble my head no more about him."

CHAPTER XII.—THE PLOT.

THE two persons most talked about in this sea-side hotel were the pretty English lady and a certain Spanish lady—a great invalid, whom very few but the landlady and chambermaid had caught more than a passing glimpse of, but whose pale face seen for a moment at her bedroom window was an object of much curiosity and speculation among the other visitors.

The sweetest-tempered and most amiable of poor sufferers was this, who had always a kind word for the servants and a gracious compliment for the mistress of the house.

It was whispered about that this poor lady was but a newly-married bride, and, indeed, no lover could have been more assiduous in his attentions upon her than the tall, dark, handsome gentleman, her husband.

"It is so pleasant to see that sort of thing," the landlady said, and, with a fat little sigh, looked across at the landlord, who only smiled and went on with his pipe.

So devoted was the husband of this invalid lady that he rarely, if ever, left her apartment, and only ventured abroad for a short time after sunset, watching his opportunity, let us suppose, when she had fallen into a refreshing sleep, for on his way downstairs it was ever the custom of this kind nurse to warn the servants against going in to disturb the sufferer during his absence.

Only was it when the blinds were closely drawn, and the door jealously locked, that this gentleman forgot sometimes his character of loving spouse, and she her role of invalid. Then in unguarded moments he wore more the air of a drunken bully, quaffing raw brandy in great gulps, and she a yellow-haired girl, with strangely worn, weary face and wrinkled brow, and thin lips, that said taunting things, and wreathed in jeering smiles. Not unfrequently at these periods would one of those paper cigarettes her slim fingers twisted so deftly, find its way to her mouth, and she could upon occasion empty the liqueur glass of brandy that ordinarily stood

untouched, her husband preferring to take his liquor from a tumbler. It would have been difficult for a casual acquaintance to have recognised in this haggard girl the timid child who used to live under the protection of an old lady in Soho-square, yet it was nevertheless the same Jane, now Mrs. Dr. Gay, and there sat the wreck of that dark, handsome gentleman upon whom the young lady at the cigar shop had smiled favourably in times past. Ah, faded smiles and forgotten smiles! What has become of you all, and of the dark, handsome gentleman who went away a day and has never come back again?

Just as he used to be in the old time, here was our Doctor waiting for that fabulous something to turn up which was yet so far off, but for which he was still watching with the same patience he had watched long ago. He had lost patience altogether one summer's evening, as he sat in the twilight by the half-opened window, sullenly puffing at his cigar.

"As soon as you have got over your temper," he said, after a somewhat lengthened pause, "perhaps you will oblige me with a few particulars of what has happened. You seem to think that I ought to guess at it by instinct."

"I have told you all that you need know."

"That seems to be nothing. Are your words so valuable? Don't we row in the same boat?"

"I suppose so," she replied wearily; then, after remaining a moment silent, she continued, "I saw her again for a moment, but could do nothing."

"That seems so strange to me. I can't understand how there can be any difficulty."

"Perhaps not."

Nothing more was said for a time, each brooding over their schemes in silence. Then Gay broke the silence:—

"Curse me if there's any understanding a woman if one lived with her all one's life. There's so much fencing with the meanings of words, and twistings of motives, and you're the worst of any I've come across. I always thought myself this was a mad scheme we'd embarked in, and far too risky, but you were dead on to it. Now when the time has come you back out."

"The time has not yet come."

"Hasn't it. It will have to make precious good haste about it though, or we shan't be able to wait. You know our money's run short, and we must make a bolt of it. They're looking rather shy downstairs, I can tell you. I told them, three days ago, I was expecting every day you'd be well enough for me to leave you, and that I'd run on to Rouen for some money, and spun a long tale to account for my not taking the easiest way of writing for it; but I can't keep that game on for ever."

"There will be no difficulty about getting away when we want to do so, I can be taken in an open carriage down to the beach, and left there for half an hour. Then when it is out of sight, take an open one, and make straight across country for the next station up the line."

"Yes, I understand all that. We shall get off right enough I suppose, but the longer we stop the greater risk we run. Not only of their looking on any sudden movement of yours with suspicion, but of my face growing rather too familiar. I'm not so sure now that Jeffcoat didn't recognise me. I can tell you I'm growing sick of the whole business."

"Do you suppose I am not sick of it? What sort of existence do you think it is for me shut up in this hateful room day and night like a prisoner, having daily to act this wretched farce of sham invalid. If it wasn't that I drink myself half silly with that brandy, I should sometimes, I think, go raving mad."

"No, no, don't excite yourself, Jenny, you're too clever a woman for that. You'll keep your wits, and play the game out as you have begun it—well. The only thing I've got to say is don't let the chance slip, strike while the iron is hot."

"The chance has not yet come. Do you suppose I am not always waiting and watching for it. Do you suppose that I shall not strike when I see the time has arrived. Do you think I shall miss when I make the blow?"

"No, no—no fear of that," he said, in a soothing tone. She had risen to her feet and with flashing eyes walked to and fro across the room as an impatient tigress might pace its cage! "You don't so easily forget a wrong—a wrong like yours isn't forgiven in a day."

"Don't try that with me," she cried, turning round on him with a savage look; "I want no teasing to make me fierce. I know you are only helping me for the sake of the money. If that woman dies the property will come back to me—there is yet a matter of ten thousand pounds to spend, and for half the money you'd cut ten thousand throats if you could do it safely."

"Well, it's only a fool who runs unnecessary risks. I'm game for any share of danger, as you know. It doesn't matter which of us does this business. You know whom the suspicion would fall upon as well as I do!"

"I do not dispute it. You need not waste your breath in your defence—yet awhile. There's no fear either of us being found out. I do not for a moment believe that you were recognised. That beard alters your appearance completely, and after all I am the person to have most fear of being known again. But she has not the ghost of a suspicion. When I am lying there in bed with my face in shadow, she has not the least idea that she has ever seen me before. I sink my voice very low, and the foreign accent helps me. She would not suspect if she saw me fifty times."

"It was a wonderful idea of yours, but we must not let it go too far. How many times has she been to see you now?"

"Three times."

"And you have given her how many doses?"

"Only one. The first time she would take anything, and she told me yesterday that what she had taken the day before had made her ill."

"It was too strong, perhaps."

"Or too weak. You say I am wasting time; let us hasten matters. Instead of a number of doses let her have one."

"But—but that might kill her at once—here, in the room."

"If she took it here; but I have a plan. What's that outside? See if the landing is clear."

Creeping to the door, Gay peeped out, then returned stealthily, and listened to Jane's whispered words.

"I found out two things when she was here to-day, and both will serve us. The fact is that she takes medicine daily, and that she shakes the bottle before pouring out the draught."

"What of that? I don't see."

"I am going to tell you. If the stuff is put into her medicine it may sink to the bottom, and she will not take enough, but if she shakes it up we can put a strong dose. Do you see now?"

"Yes, yes; but how to put it there at all."

"Quite easy. Their room is only three from this. We can get from one window to the other by the broad ledge."

"You could not; I might, perhaps. Let me look—it's too dark to make out anything. Does the ledge run all along?"

"Yes, I have looked."

"But they might come up where I was, and surprise me; and they are never out when it is dark."

"They will be, though, to-morrow. They are to go upon an excursion on the water. She told me this yesterday, and they will not be back until late."

"Let us pray for fine weather, then, and to-morrow we will risk all and run for it."

"I would rather it were done to-morrow than any other time."

"Why?"

"Because it is their wedding-day. I have been waiting for that."

(To be continued.)

FUN OF THE WEEK.

PUNCH.

WHAT MR. COCKCRAFT, THE SECRETARY OF THE BELGIAN ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE, HAS SHOWN HIMSELF.—More cocky than crafty.

THE REAL MASTER OF THE CEREMONIES TO OUR DISTINGUISHED GUESTS.—St. Swithin, and be Caut to him! (No offence to Sir Edward, we hope.)

WALLAH-BILLAH! WONDERFUL!—The Sultan has been described as slow of speech. This is a mistake, at least to judge by his utterances while on this visit to the West. Since his arrival, the Padiashah has been in a perpetual state of amazement; and has expressed the feeling with the utmost "wallah-billah-ty!"

THE SULTAN'S CELLAR.—The *Pall Mall Gazette* has asked some slightly invidious questions about the sources of the wine for the Belgian Ball. If the same rather prying curiosity has not been expressed about the liquor laid in for the Sultan, it is no doubt owing to the general impression that he doesn't drink the juice of the grape. This is a mistake. He is extremely partial to the Ottoman Port.

ORGANIC NEWS.—There is to be a new paper started in Rome. It is to be the organ of the Italian party. The Roman editor would have done us a signal service by taking back to their own country several Italian parties with their organs, now in England, instead of starting a new one. Of course the new paper, which might be called the street-organ, is denounced by the *Civiltà Cattolica*, the Church Organ.

TAKING A SHOT AT IT.—"What are all those white things for?" inquired the Lady Arabella, on the day of the review, pointing to the hammocks tried along the bulwarks of the ships. "Aw," responded Lord Fitznoodle, "ships, you know, want ballast, and those white things—aw—are sand-bags, and they—aw—put 'em at the side to keep the vessel straight." "How do ships weigh their anchors?" inquired the lady, presently. Replied the gentleman, "Aw—s'pose they—aw—put 'em in the scales."

MUST NOT BE REPEATED.—The neglect to supply the cavalry with provisions at Hounslow was anything but a rational proceeding.

ENCOURAGEMENT OF ART.—Scene: a Photographic Studio. Two Footmen discovered.—First Curled and Powdered Footman (to Photographer): "You'd better take pains with these 'ere carte de visites, as they'll be a good deal shown about."—Second Curled and Powdered Footman (on the sofa): "Yes—pertiklerly in the Hupper Suckles—Get you customers, you know."

THE LEAST THEY CAN DO.—We rejoice to hear that the Crystal Palace Company have received £500 from the Viceroy of Egypt, and £1,000 from the Sultan, as contributions to the rebuilding of the damaged portion of the Palace. As this will include restoration of the Egyptian and Byzantine Courts, we would suggest a change of titles for them—in consideration of these munificent gifts—to the Egyptian and Byzantine "Halls."

SOME PEOPLE ARE NEVER SATISFIED.—Grumblers complain that our Belgian visitors have never seen the Queen.—Nonsense. Haven't they had a personal interview with Her Majesty at Madame Tussaud's?

JUDY.

"DOUG'N'T!"—Mrs. Bunnipuff, widow of an eminent baker, invests all her money in Great (Y) Eastern shares, under the impression that they will "rise."

THE founders of the "Ragged" School "race" of children—the Messrs. Tattersall, of "course."

"FOR LAWYERS ONLY."—The right place for a "refresher"—the "bar" of Lincoln's Inn.

"WHAT'S IN AN AIM?"—Why everything at Wimbledon—Queen's Prize for example.

PISCATORIAL.—An angler found a Chubb in one of the locks of a canal the other day.

BUBBLE and SQUEAK.—A drowning pig.

DISGRACEFUL state of our legislators at the Naval Review—Half-seas over.

"TAKING Time by the Fore-lock"—A late Bacchanalian falling asleep with his latch-key in the front door.

QUERY FOR ROBERTS.—Can foul strokes at billiards be fairly considered as chicken hazards?—By-the-bye, we are authorised to contradict a report which has been circulated, that a match has been arranged between Mr. Roberts and the Viceroy of Egypt. The "cue" for the rumour is His Highness's well-known penchant for "pyramids."

ARABIA FELIX.—On Saturday week, the Viceroy of Egypt, at the Dramatic Fete, presented five hundred pounds to the Dramatic College, and an equal sum to the Palace Restoration Fund. A flend in human shape, who we regret to say is still at large, declared that such generosity ought not to have been performed on an English summer afternoon, but on an Arabian night.

FUN.

ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN.—Not necessarily, "nous avons change tout cela!"—A company now advertises "Accidents insured against!" If they can carry out their profession—of which we entertain grave doubts—they must certainly be classed among the greatest benefactors of the human race.

MUSICAL MEM.—Since the establishment of bands in connection with the various divisions of the Police Force, it is pleasing to note that a taste for a higher class of music has developed itself among domestic servants. The favourite melody now in the kitchen is "Robert, toi que j'aime!" (with a knife and fork accompaniment); senseless Ethiopian songs, such as "Bobby-in-around" being no longer heard in these times of refinement below stairs.

WHAT'S YOUR LITTLE GAME.—A gentleman writes to enquire whether the strike of working masons threatened in Paris may be correctly described as the game of "hod-man out."

A MEM. FOR MR. HALLIWELL.—A correspondent, who has been taking a holiday down the river, says he has inquired everywhere for "the Greenhythe Monster." Jealousy, mentioned by Shakespeare, but must confess he was beaten, for he couldn't find him.

AN ELEGANT COUGH REMEDY.—In our variable climate during the winter months coughs and colds appear the greatest enemies to mankind, and we are pleased to be able to draw the attention of sufferers to "Strange's Celebrated Balsam of Honey," which, as a cough remedy, stands unrivalled. Honey, in the form of a Balsamic preparation, is strongly recommended by the faculty, our medical works, and by Dr. Pereira (late lecturer on medicine to the hospitals).—See *Materia Medica*, vol. ii. page 1854. It will relieve the most irritating cough in a few minutes, and by its mildly stimulating action, gently discharges phlegm from the chest by easy expectoration, and restores the healthy action of the lungs. The amount of suffering at this time of the year is incalculable, and numbers, from the want of an effectual remedy at a low cost, have the germs of consumption laid. Sold by most chemists at 1s. 1½d. per bottle, large size 2s. 3d. Prepared by P. Strange, operative chemist, 230, East street, Walworth. Agents: Messrs. Barclay, Farringdon-street; Newbery, St. Paul's; J. Sanger, 50, Oxford-street; and Butler and Crispe, Chesham-street. [ADVT.]

JUST OUT, STEAM ENGINES (Patent), price 1s. 6d. each, of horizontal construction, manufactured entirely of metal fitted with copper boiler, steam pipe, furnace, &c., complete. Will work for hours if supplied with water and fuel. Sent carriage free, safely packed in wooden case, for 24 stamps.—TAYLOR BROTHERS, 21, Norfolk-road, Essex-road, Islington, London. Established 1859. [ADVT.]

THE DRAWING ROOM.

FASHIONS.

The Hungarian palette has been adopted by the élégantes for seaside wear. They resemble the Breton palette in style, but are more original. The carriage from Hungary costs more at present than the actual garment; but no doubt, if they become very popular, there will be depôts in Paris where they can be purchased at a reasonable rate. They are white, with agrafes and chains in chased silver; the embroidery is red and green, worked in worsted and not silk, and representing neither small figures nor coats of arms, as on the Breton jackets, but very pretty arabesques.

Young girls do not wear paletots this season, either in the country or at the seaside. A simple chemise russe with a band and sash, or a small corset, seem to be all they require. The sashes are made either of very wide ribbon or of silk cut from the piece; the ends are short, and they are tied at the back either in a simple bow or with three loops.

The chemises russe describes three pleats in front, one in the middle, and one at each side; and these pleats are ornamented either with Breton embroidery or guipure d'art. Sometimes these pleats are simulated with coloured ribbon, and a straw trimming is added at the edge of the ribbon, or the ribbon is embroidered with straw. Braces are now added to these convenient bodices: they cross in front, and are tied at the back with two long ends, terminating in a point. They are made of both light blue and light pink silk, and are decorated with feather fringe to match. Braces, made of white Organdie muslin, are also worn with light silk dresses, and a wide pleating of muslin borders the edge of the skirt. The mixture of white muslin and summer silks is very fresh and pleasing, and the addition of small muslin paletots trimmed with rich Valenciennes lace, form very appropriate toilettes for the present season of the year.

The French Court is in mourning, and perhaps it would be interesting to our readers to know the rules and regulations of a Court mourning in France. The official mourning is divided into three series—le grand deuil, or dress mourning; mourning in silk; and le petit, or slight mourning. For deep mourning the following materials are worn:—cashmere, alpaca, and crêpe de chène; the last-named, although fabricated out of silk, is considered the deepest mourning. The black cashmere dresses are not made quite high in the throat, but are cut heart-shaped in front, and a Marie Antoinette fichu, made of white crêpe-de-lisse, and fastened with a black bow, is worn over them. This fichu proves eminently becoming to blondes. Cashmere and alpaca dresses are worn for eight days, and our modistes somehow or other manage to turn out very elegant toilettes with these unpromising materials, by means of jet trimmings and crêpe bands judiciously arranged. For what is called the demi-deuil, or silk mourning, both silk and grenadine dresses figure conspicuously, and during the last few days that it is imperative to wear it, many of the Court circles are to be seen in black grenadine dresses with violet silk slips underneath. And, lastly, for slight mourning, white dresses are usual for evening wear, and either mauve or pearl grey toilettes for daytime.

BATHING COSTUME.

So great is the rage for the peplum that bathing dresses are now cut in that form. The newest style of bathing costume for the present season is made of blue flannel; the trousers and peplum bodies are ornamented with either scarlet or white worsted braid; there are no sleeves to the bodice. Straw sandals on the feet, and a small cap of toile crêpe, bound with blue braid, on the head. The art of assuming is now almost as assiduously practised by English ladies as by their French sisters. It is a health-giving exercise, and there is no reason why those who pursue it should make frights of themselves in ungraceful costumes.—*The Queen*.

SLIPS ON AND OFF THE STAGE.

(From the Cornhill Magazine.)

Our ancestors, down to a time as late as our grandfathers', certainly tolerated liberties taken with an audience by actors with a leniency that is the more surprising as the manners of the times were ruder, and the customs of a very raffish character. There are still individuals living who may have seen Edwin. At the close of his career, Edwin was playing *Burkitt*, in the "Son-in-law," at the Haymarket. In the scene where Cranky declines to accept him for a son-in-law, on account of his ugliness, Edwin uttered the word "ugly" in a tone of surprise, and then advancing to the lamps, said, with great coolness and infinite impudence, "Now, I submit to the decision of an enlightened British public, which is the ugliest fellow of the three—I, old Cranky, or that gentleman in the front row of the balcony box?" The gentleman became the object, not of general pity, but of general and loud derision, and he retreated hastily from the humiliating consequences of the actor's impertinence. It is said that Parsons, who played Cranky, was very indignant with the freedom which Edwin took with him on this occasion; but no one offended more grossly in this respect than Parsons himself. He had no reverence even for persons who should be above insult if it were only because they are unable to resent it. Parsons, at the same theatre, was once playing one of the two workmen who build the scaffold (in the "Siege of Calais") on which are to be executed Eustache de St. Pierre and his gallant comrades. In the course of his part he had to say, "So the king is coming? An' the king like not my scaffold, be he no true man!" On a night that George III. was present, Parsons, instead of keeping to what was set down for him, approached the Royal box, looked at the Sovereign, and rudely exclaimed, "An' the king were here, and didn't admire my scaffold, I would say, 'D—him, he has no taste!'" It is said that the Royal George was the first in the general laugh that broke forth, and the last to desist from such unseemly hilarity. If so, one can comprehend why he detected so much unintelligible nonsense in Shakespeare. For much less offence, Sir Robert Walpole went down from his box, and heartily caned an actor who had gone out of his part to make offensive allusion to him. The public sympathy was with the Minister. There was far more justification for Mrs. Bellamy's unheeded act and words towards the King of Denmark, when the latter was on a visit to George III. That extravagant beauty played *Alida* in "Jane Shore" in presence of the Dane, who, wearied with very fast living, was in a sound sleep during one of her finest scenes. The angry lady had to exclaim, "Oh, thou false lord!" and she drew near to the slumbering monarch, and shouted it close to his ears, with such astonishing effect that he started up, rubbed his eyes, became conscious of what was going on and how it had come about, and remarked that he would not have such a woman for his wife though she had no end of kingdoms for a dowry. But there are actors off as well as on the stage who have committed slips and produced effects which have been quite unpremeditated on their parts. These are persons who, belonging more or less to public life, are in that respect something of actors, wherever they happen to be, but especially if chance or supreme fortune bring them within the shadow of august majesty. In such presence, these individuals are apt to become a little perplexed and embarrassed.

The Society of Men of Letters having applied for authority to hold an international literary congress, and expressing at the same time a hope that a sum of 3,000*l.* would be allowed towards that end, the Emperor Napoleon, on learning the application, immediately sent 10,000*l.* and the Minister of the Interior the authorisation.

THE GARDEN.

HARDY FRUIT GARDEN.

THIS will be found a good time for budding fruit trees in general, and especially any rare sorts of apples, pears, &c., which have little wood formed suitable for grafting. Every individual bud upon young shoots of the current season's growth, sufficiently well ripened, will be found available for the purpose. Proceed with the operation in a manner like that advised lately in this calendar, for roses. When very young shoots are budded upon be careful, in tying them in, not to place the ligature too tightly around them; on the contrary, allow sufficient room for the bud to swell and grow properly.

KITCHEN GARDEN.

Make now a sowing of peas of the following, or other similar kinds—namely, champion of Paris, an excellent marrow, which turns in quickly, and is well adapted for autumn use, Sangster's No. 1, &c. Make another sowing of cabbage for a spring supply. Sowings should also be made forthwith of lettuce for early winter use, for which purpose none is better than the old black-seeded brown cos, when true. A small sowing of endive should also be made for a similar purpose. Generally these are sown between rows of celery recently planted out, a position which suits them admirably; when well above ground thin them out to the necessary distance apart. Get all celery plants placed in their winter quarters without further delay, continuing frequently to water them should the weather prove dry. Give asparagus beds another liberal surface-salting, if done in rainy weather all the better. Hoe the beds well, afterwards moving the ground freely between the rows with the same implement. Those who like to have young potatoes late should make a sowing of oldsets at once in a warm situation, such as a south border; do not plant too deeply, and give them a good width apart in the rows. Plant early sorts. Tomatoes will now require frequent attention; fasten them firmly to the wall, and prune away all superfluous shoots immediately a crop of fruit has been secured.—*W. E. in the Gardener's Chronicle*.

WEEDS.

Considering that weeds are found in every part of the inhabited world, it is singular that so few languages have a full equivalent of the term "weed," and that so useful an idea as that popularly embodied in it should not have been, long ere this, translated into science. The Latin "herba," or Spanish "yerba," certainly does include our "weed;" but whilst every weed is a herb, not every herb is a weed. What, then, is the real meaning of "weed"? Dictionary writers do not help us much by qualifying weed as a mean or troublesome herb, for the popular mind associates with the nature of a weed several other characteristics not mentioned by them. We talk of plants bearing "a weedy look," and though most of us know what that means, nobody has as yet made it clear to those who do not know. The term weedy would be misapplied to the aloe, but fit exactly the generality of the alismes. We would never say of the heather that it had a weedy look; in fact, the term would never suggest itself in connection with that species. The vegetation of New Holland could not be described, speaking generally, as bearing a weedy look, whilst that of the lower coast region of most tropical countries could scarcely be better defined than by that phrase. One of the most essential characteristics of a weed is, therefore, that it should look weedy, or, in other words, that its stem and foliage should be neither too fleshy nor too leathery, but of a soft, flaccid, or membranaceous description.

PLANTS.

Amongst plants a fierce though silent struggle for the possession of the soil is constantly going on. Even when no foreign elements are introduced into the flora of a country it is ever at work; but it becomes much more fierce when species from abroad appear on the field, or at all events, from our being able to recognise at a glance the opposing elements, we are in a position to watch the struggle and its issue. A prominent example of such a battle-field, if so martial a term be admissible, is the island of St. Helena, where the native vegetation is almost entirely superseded by a foreign one, some of the singular indigenous tree, *Composita* and others, now existing in only one or two old specimens. In some parts of the Cape of Good Hope an equally great change is noted, and many species are in danger of becoming altogether extinct. I remember the venerable explorers, Ecklon and Zeyher, taking me to see a few silver trees (*Leucadendron argenteum*), which, they assured me, were the only specimens in South Africa. Dr. Hooker, in his suggestive paper "On the Struggle for Existence amongst Plants," has well pointed out the rapid spread of European species in New Zealand, and the displacement of the indigenous. The alterations wrought in Europe by the naturalisation of foreign plants are familiar to us all, and many other parts of the inhabited globe might be pointed out where the same phenomenon is observable. Foreign plants deport themselves towards the indigenous as an invading army does towards the inhabitants of a hostile country. Before the bulk of the army advances, outposts make their appearance, consisting of the most daring and hardy fellows. In the vegetable kingdom this office is performed by the weeds.—*Gardener's Chronicle*.

WOMEN.

CRITICS allege that women have to a much greater extent than men a choice of patterns, of colours, and of the materials of raiment; but individually they throw all these advantages aside and follow slavishly the prevailing fashion, heedless whether or not it suits their personal peculiarities. Are stripes the fashion, a tall woman wears them and makes herself look like a hop-pole, or a fluted column, or a monument. Are flounces the rage, a short stout lady insists on adopting them, and in consequence reminds all beholders of a well-hooped cask? Is it the fashion to draw back the hair "à la Eugénie"—a custom that requires a face of classical beauty to redeem from its unnatural ugliness—and lo! every fat and round-faced woman at once adopts it, heedless of the ridiculous effect produced. Our detractors also state that a comparison of the views with which these who dress to an extreme degree are regarded by persons of their own sex as greatly in favour of the masculine race. It is true that a man even if slightly overdressed, or even evincing any decided tendency to fashionable attire, is without exception an object of contempt to every sensible person of his own sex; whereas a woman, unless proceeding to the utmost limits of propriety, is often estimated by her contemporaries very much in proportion to the extent to which she carries her devotion to the shrine of fashion.—*The Queen*.

THE ROMANCE OF WAR.—Isabella Alder, aged sixty-four, who has been for five years an unsuccessful candidate for admission to the Cambridge Asylum for Soldiers' Widows at Kingston-on-Thames, tells the following story, which is not only sad, but true:—Her father served in the 9th Foot during the Peninsular War, and she was sent home from the seat of war in 1814, to be educated at the Duke of York's School. Two of her brothers were killed at Waterloo. She married a sergeant of the 18th (Royal Irish) Regiment, and all four of her sons have fallen in the service of their country, two in the 51st Foot, one in the 7th Foot, and one in the 55th Foot. One was killed at Rangoon, one in the Crimea, and two died in India, leaving her in the deepest poverty.—*United Service Gazette*.

LITERATURE.

"The Seven Weeks' War; its Antecedents and its Incidents." By H. M. Hozier. 2 vols. (Macmillan and Co.)

BASED upon letters printed in the *Times*, for which journal Lieut. Hozier was Special Correspondent, this narrative of the recent war in Germany gives a clear and interesting account of one of the most important campaigns of the present century. At Tischenowitz, the Prussian advanced guard was formed by a small body of dragoons, commanded by a lieutenant, who saw, as they approached the bridge, three Austrian squadrons drawn up on the further bank of the stream. The remainder of the account we give in the author's own words:—

"But the lieutenant commanding the small body of Prussian advanced guard, seeing that he was too weak to force his way, and fearing to be surrounded and cut off, retreated a short distance to where a slight rise in the ground gave him a certain advantage of position, and there drawing up his little force awaited an attack, but with no intention of meeting it with the sword. While his men were yet retiring, they were unbuckling their carbines, and before they had turned to stand, their quickly-loaded arms, constructed on the same principle as the needle-gun, were ready to fire. And not too soon, for the Austrians had begun to advance quickly, and were diling over the bridge, prepared to form line and charge, when a sudden volley from the Prussian carbines made them pull up sharp, half-surprised, half-frightened to find that a carbine could be of any use, except to make noise or smoke, in the hands of a mounted man. But the Prussians did not wait to observe the discomfiture of their enemies; their officer only noticed that they were in too strong a force to be allowed to get near his much smaller band, and again he retreated a little distance; and so quick were the dragoons with their loading that their carbines were almost ready to fire again before they turned to retire. The Austrians again formed to charge, and again before they had settled into their stride a rapid volley stopped their career. Again the Prussians retired, and again faced about, ready to fire another volley. Again the Austrians came on, and again the fire of the dragoons stopped them short; but this was the last time, for the whole of the first squadron of the dragoons were now up, and had formed line beside the few who had hitherto prevented the advance of the lancers. Then the dragoons advanced to charge, and the Austrians, glad to exchange the chance of close quarters for the fire of the carbines, came forward to meet them. Both sides advanced steadily; the lancers, with their spears in rest, came on in an apparently impenetrable line; but the dragoons, with their sword points to the front and their horses well in hand, bore steadily upon them, in the last few yards let their horses go, and dashed in through the points of the lances. Their commander, Major von Shack, went down, grievously wounded, but his men thought of his fall only to avenge it, and rushed in so close to the lancers that their spears were useless, smiting them heavily with their keen bright swords. A few moments only the *mêlée* lasted: then the lancers, turning, flew towards the town. The dragoons pursued, but their officer kept them well in hand, and they did not lose their order. When the street was gained the lancers turned again, the swordsmen thundered down, upon them, and by sheer weight and strength of blows bore them backwards along the street. The fight was long and hard. The men, too close together to use their weapons, grappled with one another; the horses, frightened and enraged, snorted, plunged, reared, and struck out. But the Prussians had superior weight and strength, and pressed their antagonists back along the streets to a wider space in the centre of the town, where a high image of the Madonna, carved in stone, looked down upon the fray. Here an Austrian officer, hurled from his saddle by a tall Prussian dragoon, had his brains dashed out against the foot of the monument, and another Austrian, bent backwards over the cantle of his saddle, had his spine broken by the strength of his assailant. The light Austrian men and horses had no chance in this close conflict, and soon they were obliged to turn, and fled down the street to where their supports were drawn up behind the town."

"The Last Days of the Reign of Louis Philippe." By M. Guizot. (Bentley.)

AMONG the personages who figure in these pages are Lord Cowley and Lord Normanby, and both in reference to the "Spanish marriages":—

"The slightest incident connected with this subject excited the King's attention. 'I send you a number of the *Morning Post*,' he wrote on the 20th of June, 1842, 'which contains a pretended letter, evidently a fabrication, from Queen Christina to Don Carlos. In reading it you will not mistake the object of this forgery, which is to persuade English credulity that I wish one of my sons to become the husband of Queen Isabella, and that it is Christina who does not desire it. *Credat Judæus!* . . . The difficulty of destroying these illusions, suspicions, and misconceptions of our interests, in the minds of the English, after 40 years of contact with them, as also, I venture to say, after the thirteen years of my reign, considerably shakes the confidence I felt of establishing between Paris and London the cordial and sincere understanding so necessary, as I think, to the real advantage of both countries, and the true *Alcázar* of the peace of Europe.'

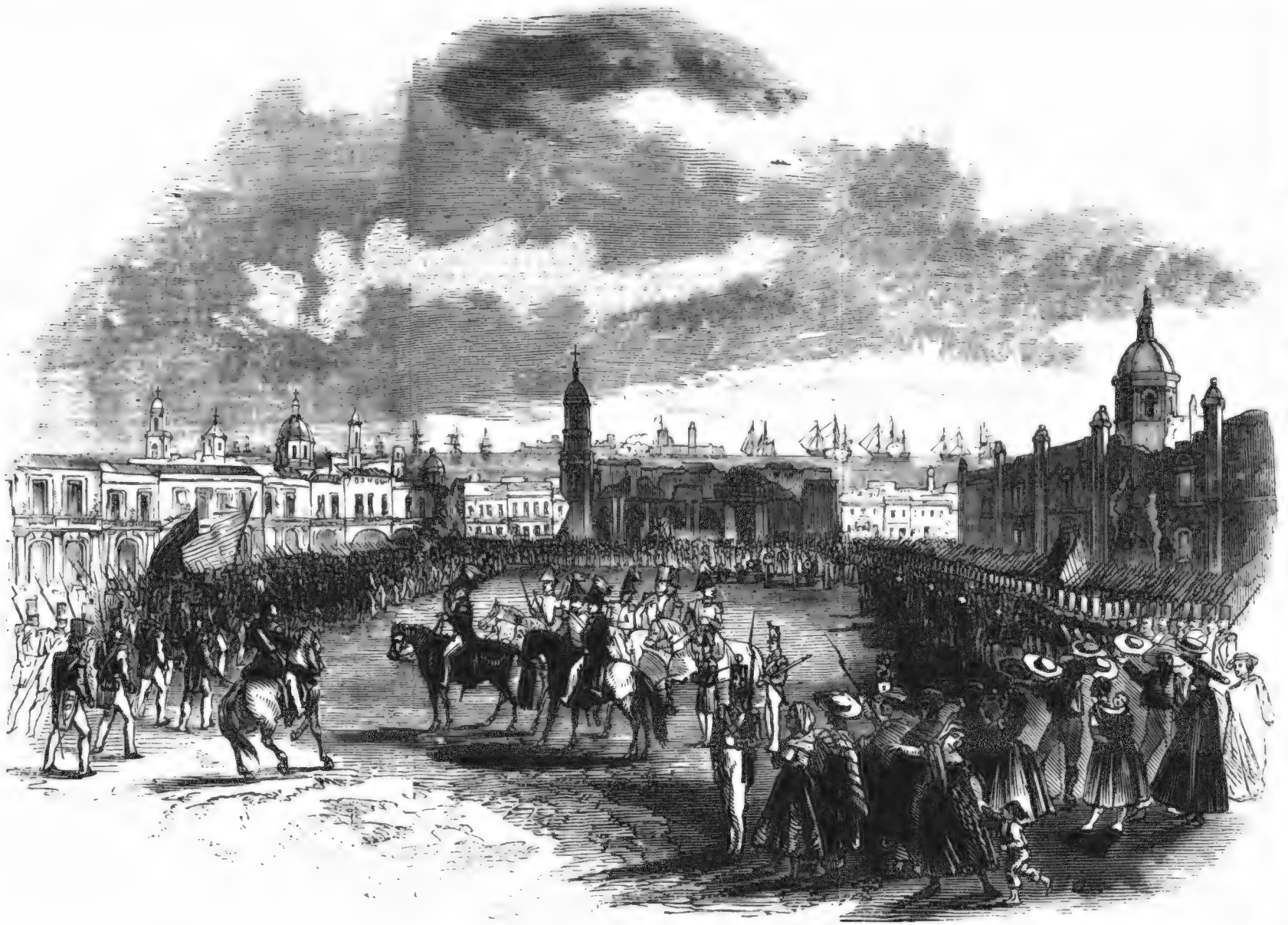
The reference to Lord Normanby has a more comic turn in it:—

"A few weeks later, the vexations of a personal incident added to those of Lord Normanby's political situation. One of the despatches in which he gave an account to Lord Palmerston of his interview with me on the double Spanish marriage, and of what I said of that account in the Chamber of Deputies, led, on both sides, to recriminations and contradictions which rendered our individual intercourse difficult. I maintained what I had said, Lord Palmerston supported his ambassador. The disagreement soon became public. An invitation which came to me at this precise moment from the English embassy, through a mistake (*méprise*) which Lord Normanby, who understood French imperfectly, called the *contempt* (*mépris*) of his secretary, added to the embarrassment of the situation the annoyance of drawing-room comments and manifestations."

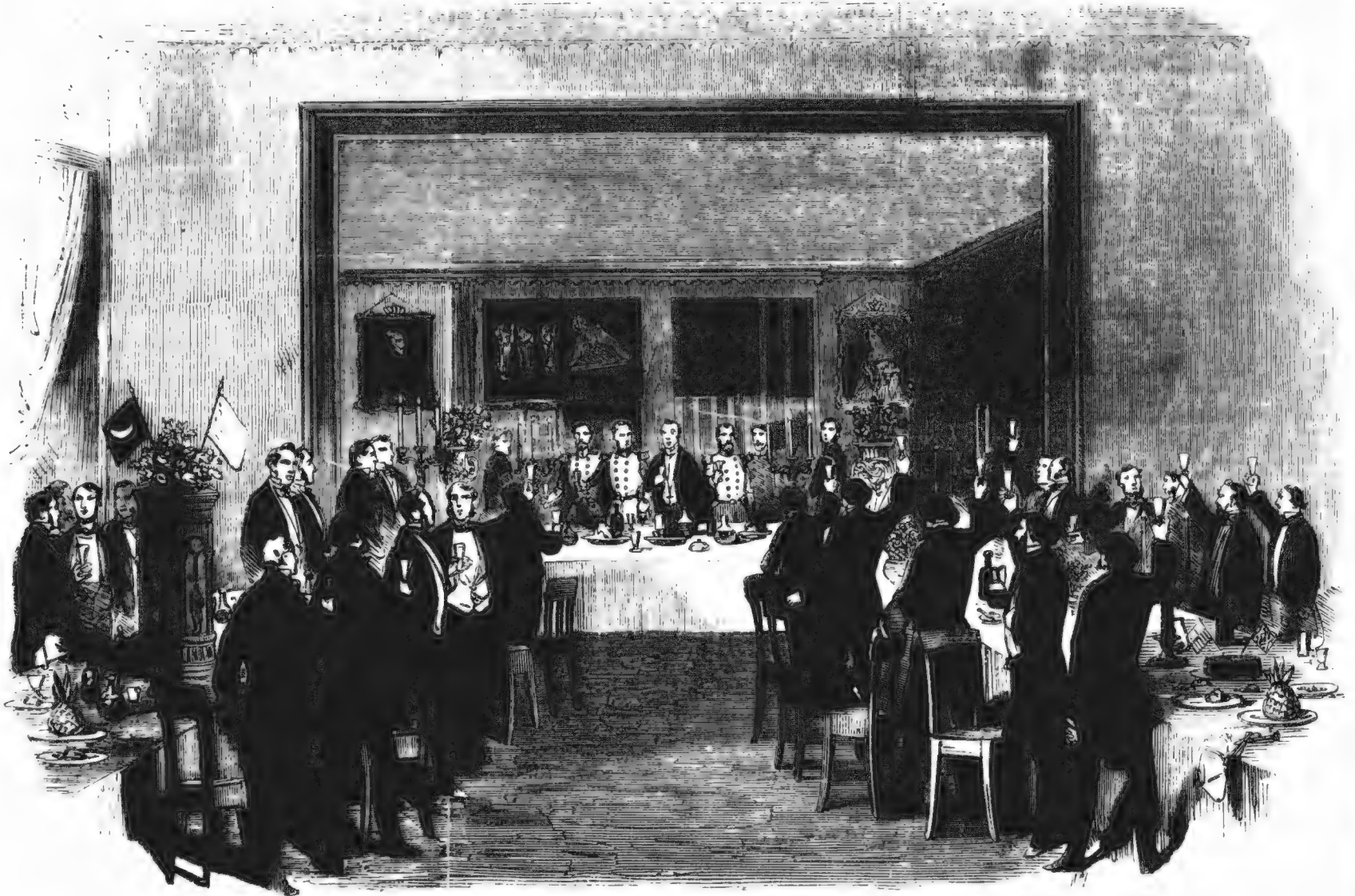
Here is a scene of the last days of the monarchy which has not before been described. Louis Philippe had determined to stick to his ministers; the Queen was of another opinion:—

"Queen Marie-Amélie's elevated mind, always heroic in the day of trial, was as passionate as it was noble, and sometimes she would become fearfully alarmed about the position of her Royal consort and her children. 'She entered the King's cabinet,' said M. Duchâtel, 'followed by the Duke de Montpensier. She was very much agitated, and under the influence of great excitement. —'M. Duchâtel,' she said to me, 'I know M. Guizot's devotion to the King and to France; if he consults that, he will not remain another moment in power.' —'Madame,' I replied, somewhat excited at this vehement outburst, 'M. Guizot, as well as all his colleagues, is ready to devote himself for the King even to the last drop of his blood; but he has no desire to obtrude himself upon the King in spite of himself. The King is free to give or to withhold his confidence, as he deems it advisable for the interests of his crown.' —'Do not say such things, my dear friend,' said the King to the Queen: 'what if M. Guizot should hear of them?'"

Speedily came the end; and M. Guizot, moralizing thereon, says, "At the present day all the parties, I may say, all the men who . . . took part in the revolution of February are, like myself, conquered."



SURRENDER OF VERA CRUZ.



BANQUET AT PORTSMOUTH AFTER THE REVIEW.

DISPLAY OF FIREWORKS AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE
IN HONOUR OF THE BELGIANS.

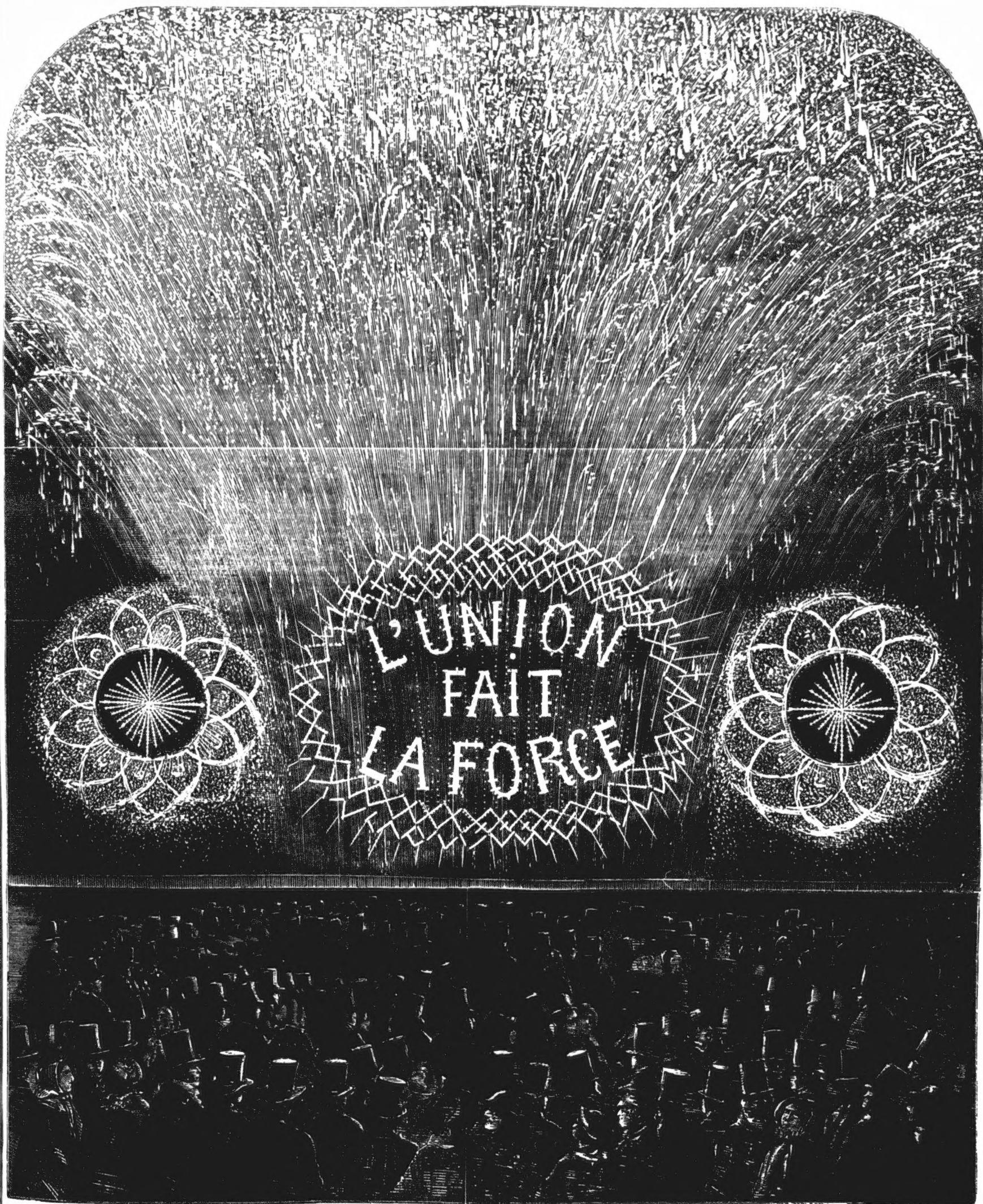
WE give an illustration of the display of fireworks in honour of the Belgians at the Crystal Palace. About 1,500 of the Belgian volunteers visited the Crystal Palace on Wednesday, but although the event was one set down in the programme, no organised movement with regard to it seems to have been made, or at least carried out. In addition to the band of the Crystal Palace Company, that of the Guard Civique performed at intervals on the terrace, and the band of the Royal Artillery in the orchestra. There was a display of fountains at six o'clock, and again later in the evening, and the fireworks were repeated on a much grander scale than on the previous (Tuesday) evening.

THE LAST OF A COTERIE.

THE last of a once brilliant circle, the meeting-place of which is razed to the ground, is dead—Lady Blessington's niece, Miss Marguerite Power. She claims a place in these columns, as having attempted rather than succeeded in light authorship, having written tales, verses, and a book of travels. Her account of a winter's residence in Egypt is by much her best work. But even more than in the case of her gracious and graceful aunt will she be remembered by her personal elegance and suavity of manner, not unaccompanied by lively touches of humour and shrewd observation, rather than by any literary individuality or merit. The two were born for society—neither of them to achieve a lasting reputation by their butterfly pen-work.

SUICIDE OF RUSSIAN PRINCE.

THE *Gazette del Popolo* of Turin gives some details respecting a refugee who was found dead; his name was Nicholas Tabovsky, a Russian Prince, and thirty-five years of age. In a letter written in French, which was found on the body, he declared that ten years ago he intended to commit suicide on that same spot, but his courage failed him at the last moment. Far from his native country, his life had become a burden to him. He nominated as his heir the first person that should discover his corpse. The revolver he had used had been purchased the day before at the shop of a gunsmith named Lupotti. On the body was found a gold watch with a valuable chain and a well-filled purse, and on the hands a pair of new yellow kid gloves.



DISPLAY OF FIREWORKS AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE IN HONOUR OF THE BELGIANS.

LAW AND POLICE.

SINGULAR CASE.—A miserably-attired man, 40 years of age, whose features fully bespoke hardship and privation, giving the name of Thomas Nugent, was charged on his own confession with having escaped in 1852 from the penal settlement in Van Diemen's Land, whither he had been sent on the 13th August, 1845, by the court of assize, holden at Kirkdale, Lancashire, to serve ten years' transportation for committing a burglary at Manchester. From the statement of a police-constable it appeared that about half-past ten o'clock in the morning prisoner came into the Kennington-lane police-station and gave himself up as an escaped convict. He said he was without home or friends and perfectly destitute, and this had driven him to give himself up.—In answer to the magistrate, prisoner said he was first of all sent to Norfolk Island, but a mutiny breaking out he and other convicts were removed to the penal settlement in Van Diemen's Land. In 1852, while out with a pass, he made his way to the gold diggings, and then gaining some money managed to get back to England. He stopped with his father, a naval pensioner at Greenwich, for some time, and then enlisted in the 64th Regiment of Foot. He served through the Persian campaign and the Indian Mutiny. He was afterwards discharged by a medical board, owing to a broken constitution from hard campaigning, and allowed a small pension for a short time. Since then he had worked at the docks, but now was completely broken down from want, and that was why he had given himself up.—The magistrate, who commented upon the extraordinary nature of the case, ordered the prisoner to be remanded, in order that the authorities might be communicated with.—Prisoner, on leaving the dock, expressed his pleasure that he should have food and shelter, if it was in prison.

IMPUDENT ROBBERY.—A well-dressed man, who gave the name of James Sharp, with long beard and moustache, was brought up for final examination, charged with stealing a gold Albert chain from the shop of Mr. Wharton, jeweller and silversmith, Blackfriars-road, worth five guineas.—It appeared from the evidence of the manager to the prosecutor, that on the afternoon of Saturday, the prisoner entered the shop to look at some trifling articles at the end of the shop. At that time a quantity of valuable gold Albert chains were hanging next the window, having been selected for a particular customer. While witness's back was turned he heard a stumbling noise near the doorway, and on looking round he perceived the prisoner snatch at the chains and bolt out of the shop with one of them. The prisoner no doubt would have had them all had not a box of tools been in his way, over which he stumbled. Witness followed him out of the shop, and saw him enter the private doorway of a neighbour. Having informed the latter what had taken place, he went for a constable, and on his return he found the prisoner in custody and the chain was found on the staircase.—Mr. George Charles Stretton, tobaccoist, two doors from Mr. Wharton's, said that on the afternoon in question he was attending to a customer, when he saw the prisoner rush into his private entrance, and immediately afterwards last witness came up and said, "That man has just stolen a gold chain from our shop." Witness proceeded round the counter, and met the prisoner coming downstairs. He seized hold of him, and detained him until a constable came up and secured him. Witness then proceeded upstairs, and on the window-sill of the first landing he found the Albert chain, which Mr. Miller identified.—Prisoner pleaded guilty.—The magistrate said as the property was worth upwards of £5 he could not deal with him. He must be committed for trial.

DESPERATE AFFRAY WITH BURGLARS.—Two young men were re-examined on a charge of committing a burglary at No. 13, Eldon-road, Kensington, and stealing a box containing jewellery of the value of £70, the property of Miss Augusta Marryat.—The evidence in the case was as follows:—Shortly after two o'clock in the morning, a police-constable saw the prisoners climb over the wall at the rear of the house into the road, and run away. He followed and stopped them, and upon asking Hall, who was carrying a bundle, what he had got, he replied a present which his sister gave him. The constable then told them they must go to the station, when Francis said to Hall, "We'll die before we go; stick to what you have got." Hall said, "All right; we'll stick together like thumps." A struggle ensued, when Francis obtained possession of the bundle and ran away. The constable left Hall and pursued the other prisoner, and stopped him. Hall then came up and knocked the constable down, kicking him several times while on the ground. On getting up he knocked the prisoner down with his staff. He also knocked Francis down, and on Hall getting up he ran away with the bundle. The constable threw his rattle at him when it struck him on the head, and he dropped the bundle. Both prisoners succeeded in making their escape from him by getting into a garden. Francis was without boots, and was wearing a hat, which fell off his head in the struggle. The prisoner Hall, however, ran into the arms of another constable named Hodgkinson, when he said, "Do not knock me about; I will tell you all about it. I was led into it by the other party. I cannot get any work and I am obliged to do something." On the way to the station he was observed feeling in his pocket, when the constable took two pairs of scissors from him. Sergeant Savage searched for the other prisoner and found him in the garden of No. 8, Cambridge-place, concealed under some laurel trees. The bundle was found to contain two parasols, a shirt, two pairs of socks, and the box of jewellery. A fan was found in a garden, and an opera glass in the area of another house, the articles having been thrown away in their flight. The house is occupied by Mr. E. Cooke, who was awoke in the night by his bedroom-door being opened and the sudden appearance of a strong light. He got up and saw a man running down the steps outside the door, which he had heard unbolted, into the garden and climb over the wall. In the garden he found a cap and a pair of boots which were proved to belong to Francis. A decanter of ginger wine, which had been taken from a room in the house, was also found in the garden. The hat which the prisoner was seen wearing was identified as belonging to a lodger in the house. Miss Marryat claimed the box of jewellery, fan, opera glass, and the scissors as her property; they were left on a table in the drawing-room on the preceding night. The parasol belonged to Miss Cooke, and had been taken from the hall. The other property belonged to her brother. It also appeared that the house was secured before the family went to bed, all the windows being closed and fastened with the exception of the one on the landing, and this was left open as usual. On the house being examined after the prisoners were apprehended, it was found that an entrance had been effected by climbing up the water spout to the top of a tank, which was close to the landing window, which was open.—Mr. Ingham committed the prisoners, who did not say anything, for trial for burglary by breaking into the premises.

THROWING VITRIOL.—Mary Laven was charged with throwing a quantity of vitriol in the face of Mr. Raspi, bassoon player at Her Majesty's Theatre.—Mr. Raspi said while in bed at his lodgings, No. 3, Arundel-street, Haymarket, the prisoner, who had been servant at another house where he formerly lodged, entered the room and threw a quantity of vitriol into his face, some of which went into his mouth and some into his eyes. His lips and throat were burned, and so were his night clothes. Being in bed, he was unable to follow the prisoner, and she got away.—Mr. Tyrwhitt would remand the case, and would decline to take bail.—Mr. Froggatt said he should not cross-examine the complainant on the present occasion. He must ask to have some letters of the complainant delivered to the prisoner, as they were necessary to her defence.—Mr. Tyrwhitt directed that the letters should be given to the prisoner.

A DESPERATE LOVER.—A labourer, without any home, was again charged with threatening to take the life of Mrs. Pinkerton, a respectable married woman.—It may be remembered that, about a fortnight ago, the prisoner was brought up on the above charge, and then declared his belief that if he were not put under restraint he should carry his threat into execution. He had lodged with Mr. and Mrs. Pinkerton about fifteen years ago, and became violently enamoured of the lady; but his attentions were of course repulsed, and hence his determination to murder her. The prisoner was examined by the surgeon at Newgate and certified to be insane, and in consequence he was sent to the union, to be taken care of in the parochial lunatic asylum. The medical officers of that establishment, however, decided that he was not insane, and he was, in accordance with instructions, sent back to the police-court to be dealt with. On his way to the court he told the officer that he would certainly murder Mrs. Pinkerton when he could get the opportunity.—Mr. Alderman Stone remanded him.

FURIOUS RIDING IN ROTTEN-ROW.—The Hon. John Napier, of No. 24, Princes-gate, was summoned before Mr. Tyrwhitt, for furious riding in Rotten-row, Hyde-park.—A police-constable said that on Saturday evening, while on duty in Rotten-row, he saw the defendant and another gentleman riding furiously in the row—going, in fact, as fast as their horses could go, the speed being eighteen or twenty miles an hour. The defendant and his friend were racing. They were beating their horses and endeavouring to pass each other. He waited until they returned, and then went up to the defendant and asked for his name. The defendant wanted to know what for, and he told him to report him for furious riding. The defendant said he was very sorry.—The defendant said he certainly did beat his horse, but the gentleman who was with him, Mr. Hubbard, did not. He was not warned against riding fast, and did not know there was any rule against it. He might add that the row was quite empty at the time.—The constable said there were a great many persons crossing the row at the time.—The defendant saw no one cross before his horse. He thought he ought to have been warned that he was doing wrong.—Mr. Tyrwhitt said it was impossible such conduct could be overlooked, it being not only dangerous to riders, but to foot passengers. The fine in all these cases would be 40s., or one month.—Mr. Hubbard was also summoned, but was not in attendance. His servant appeared on his behalf, but Mr. Tyrwhitt declined to hear the case in the absence of the person summoned, and adjourned the summons for a week.

STREET OUTRAGES.—A well-known companion of thieves, was brought up for final examination, charged with being concerned with two others not in custody, in assaulting John Scott, and robbing him of a gold watch and chain in the Southwark-bridge-road.—The prosecutor, an elderly gentleman, residing in Princess-square, Kennington-park-road, stated that on Monday night about ten o'clock he was crossing the Borough-road into the Southwark-bridge-road, when three young fellows came pushing against him. It was raining all the time and he kept his umbrella up, and his watch was safe in a side pocket, attached to a guard-chain. He had not proceeded many yards before one of them rushed suddenly against him, and snatched his watch and chain, and before he recovered himself they all made their escape. Witness believed that the prisoner was the man who robbed him, but he should not like to swear to him as the robbery was committed so suddenly.—Joseph Allen said that on Monday night, about half-past ten, he was in private clothes near Newington-causeway, when the constable on the beat called his attention to the prisoner and two other thieves who were following the prosecutor. Witness went after them, and just as the prosecutor was turning out of Southwark-bridge-road in Newington-causeway, towards the Elephant and Castle, the prisoner and his companions separated, and one of them rushed upon the prosecutor and snatched his watch, when he joined his companions, and they made their escape.—Mr. Burcham asked if the prisoner was the man who snatched the watch.—Witness replied that it was very dark at the time, and he was some distance off, but he knew him to be one of the three who attacked the prosecutor.—A police-constable said he was on duty in uniform, and saw the prisoner and two others follow the gentleman from High-street, and meeting last witness at the end of his beat in the Borough-road he told him to watch them, as he believed they intended to rob the prosecutor. Witness knew them to be thieves.—John Walker, detective officer, said he received information of the robbery, with a description of the offenders, and on Wednesday night he found the prisoner in the Mint. He told him he wanted him for being concerned in robbing a gentleman of his watch and chain. On Monday night, in the Southwark-bridge-road, when he denied being there and all knowledge of the robbery.—The prisoner pleaded guilty, but said that when the robbery was committed he was very hungry.—Mr. Burcham had no doubt from the way the robbery was committed that he was connected with a gang who prowled about the streets for the purpose of plunder, he therefore sentenced him to six months' hard labour, intimating to him at the same time that if he was convicted again of a similar offence, he would be sentenced to a long term of penal servitude.

STREET OUTRAGE ON A FEMALE.—A powerfully-built young fellow, described as a labourer, was charged with committing a most violent assault on a young woman, named Emma Moss, at Holloway. The complainant and another young woman were standing at the corner of the street in which they reside, when the defendant passed and insulted the complainant. She told the defendant to leave her alone, but instead of doing so he called her foul names, and hit her in the breast. He followed up this by again striking her, and this he did with such force that he knocked her down and rendered her insensible. He was proceeding to further acts of violence, but was prevented and taken indoors by his mother. The defendant, it was stated, had on a previous occasion assaulted the complainant.—The defendant said the complainant and the woman that was with her annoyed him and called him foul names, and that was the reason why he hit her; but he did not hurt her as she had said.—Mr. Cooke said that these cases of street outrages seemed to be on the increase, and something must be done to check them. He then sentenced the prisoner to six weeks' hard labour in the House of Correction.—The defendant, who wished for a fine to be inflicted, was then removed in custody.

CHARLES TOPMAN was charged with attempting to rob Joshua Barton, on the incline of the London-bridge Terminus of the South Eastern Railway.—The Prosecutor, an old gentleman, residing at Rotherhithe, came to the station in a cab on Monday night, and as soon as he got out he was surrounded by three young fellows, one of whom put his hand into his pocket and attempted to rob him. Seeing an officer approach they all scampered off, but the prisoner was secured. The prosecutor was a little the worse for liquor, and could not say whether he had been robbed or not.—John Antonio, one of the railway constables, saw the prisoner put his hand in the prosecutor's pocket, and he pursued him into the Borough-market, and saw him stopped by a police-sergeant.—The prisoner pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to three months' hard labour.

DEFAUDING A RAILWAY COMPANY.—Mr. John Brown, a clerk at Messrs. Morgan's, Cannon-street, E.C., was charged before Mr. Woolrych, with attempting to defraud the South Eastern Railway Company by travelling from New Cross to London without having previously paid his fare, and refusing to do so when requested by one of the company's servants.—Henry Crook, ticket collector, said that on the morning of the 20th of June he was on duty at the barrier at the London-bridge terminus when the train arrived from New Cross. There were a great number of passengers and the prisoner rushed past him without giving up his ticket, calling out, "All right." Witness, however, called him back to

show his ticket, and on his refusing to do so, he followed him and demanded it of him. The defendant then felt in his pockets and produced half a ticket from New Cross to London issued on the previous day, and which was not available that day. Witness told him so, and demanded the fare from him, and as he refused to pay, took his name and address and reported the circumstances to the superintendent.—The defendant said that he purchased a return ticket at New Cross on the 19th of June, and not having used any portion of it on that day he thought he was entitled to use it on the following day. He assured his worship that he had no intention of defrauding the company.—Mr. Woolrych asked if the defendant showed the other half of the ticket.—The collector replied in the negative. When he gave the half from New Cross to London witness asked him to show the other half, but he could not produce it.—The station-master at New Cross informed his worship that the defendant knew very well that a return ticket of that description was not available the day after it was issued.—Mr. Woolrych considered it a barefaced attempt to defraud the company. He therefore fined him 30s. and costs, or fourteen days.

THE SULTAN'S VISIT TO SOUTH KENSINGTON.—A servant was charged with being drunk and assaulting the police.—322 B., said that he was on duty at the South Kensington Museum at twelve o'clock, when the defendant said he would go in, and forced his way forward. Defendant was drunk and struck him in the breast. He was attacked by three or four more, who said they would go in.—Mr. Arnold: Was that at the time the Sultan was there?—Constable: Yes, your worship. The defendant was drunk.—Mr. Arnold: What did he say he wanted to go in for?—Constable: Nothing that I heard.—Defendant: My ladies went to the Horticultural Gardens that night. The carriage was ordered at a quarter to twelve, and I went. The police were driving the servants back, and an altercation occurred with one who was trying to get to his people. I came off the box of my carriage and got by the side of another who was in livery. We were all trying to get to our people, but the police would not let us.—Mr. Arnold: "Our people" used to be called by the proper title of masters and mistresses, but I suppose that has gone out of fashion.—Defendant: Well, sir, they were trying to get at their masters and mistresses, and the man in livery would go forward, and they caught him by the collar, and brought him back to my side, and in the struggle my hat was knocked off, and I stooped to pick it up, when I was dragged away by the police, and charged with assaulting them.—Mr. Arnold: You are also charged with being drunk.—Defendant: I say that I was not drunk.—Police-constable Butcher, 340 B., was called, and said that he removed the defendant two or three times, and then saw Edmonds down on the ground, and defendant on the top of him. Defendant then turned round and struck witness two or three times.—Mr. Arnold: Was the defendant drunk?—Witness: He had been drinking, but he was very much excited. He said he had as much right there as anyone else. He struck me two or three times in the mouth.—Defendant: Do you mean to say that I struck you two or three times in the mouth?—Witness: You did.—Defendant pointed out that the witness had no marks, and solicited a remand to enable him to procure witnesses.—Mr. Arnold consented to a remand upon his giving one surety in £5.

THE BISHOP'S VISIT.

I WELL remember the thrill that ran through my own bosom, and I have reason to believe through the bosom of every other member of the family too, when papa returned and told us that the bishop was coming to stay a week with us. I prepared myself by reading Paley's Evidences and Butler's Analogy, for it would have been of no use to have practised one's accomplishments, since he was more than middle-aged, and married too. Still I always like to create a favourable impression, especially at first. Well, he came, quite the bishop, shovel hat, apron and gaiters, and so polite and courteous, we were all delighted with him, and I had no idea until then how nice bishops were. I must confess I was a little shocked next morning, to see him out of my window walking with papa in the garden before breakfast, wearing an old Jim Crow hat; but as he did not seem to feel that he had placed himself in a false position nobody alluded to the circumstance. It was pleasant summer weather while he was with us, and we were quite at a loss to determine how we should act about croquet, whether we should have our games as usual, leaving him to look on, for none of us suspected that a bishop would condescend to play, or, as that might seem a little discourteous to our visitor, give up our games of croquet so long as he was with us, and we had agreed to adopt the latter course, when to our utter astonishment he introduced the subject himself, and actually asked me, of all people in the world, to teach him. Consequently, every day we either played amongst ourselves, or invited a few friends to make up a croquet party, and the bishop invariably joined us. He played very badly to be sure, but I could sympathize with him on that point; besides, no one expects a dignity of the Church to be a proficient in such a frivolous game. At first none of us liked to treat him as one usually treats enemies, and send his ball a long way off, for we thought he would scarcely consider himself justified in putting his episcopal legs to the ignoble task of fetching it back again,—of course he would never think of running, you know (I generally skip along under such circumstances, as I think it gives one a light and fairy-like appearance)—so, although we pretended to try and hit his ball, we always missed it, and he, poor simple ecclesiastic, never once suspected our stratagem, and congratulated himself in the most innocent way upon his supposed immunity from harm. However, this did not last long, for George, who, as papa very properly told him afterwards, has no respect for constituted authorities, declared that the bishop spoiled the game, and he should take the earliest opportunity of treating him as if he were only an ordinary human being (just think of that), and consequently, when that opportunity did come, sent the poor bishop's ball flying miles away. The injured prelate turned a look half of pity, half of remonstrance, upon George (entirely lost upon him), which seemed to say, "Young man, I should very much like to administer a grave rebuke to you"; and with a slow and beautiful episcopal stalk, went to look for his ball, which he reached in about five minutes from the time when he started in search of it. No sooner had George set the example than everybody, with the exception of myself, seemed to think it fine fun to worry the poor bishop in every possible way, sending his ball often immense distances; but he preserved his dignified demeanour wonderfully well, and amply retaliated upon his foes by the length of time he kept them waiting while he walked deliberately in the direction in which his ball had been sent. I pitied him immensely, especially his dear legs, which must have been so dreadfully hot with that apron over them, and those tight-fitting gaiters.—*Thoughts on Men and Things.*

HARVEST PROSPECTS.—The price of wheat continues, on the whole, to be steadily maintained. The harvest has made considerable progress in the South of France, and the result does not appear to be a very brilliant one. In the centre and east of France, the state of affairs, without being so bad, does not give complete satisfaction to agriculturists. The same may be said of the north-east and the west of France. In the northern district, however, with the exception of the Ardennes, the crop is generally good. We have dwelt thus in detail on the French crops, because a good or a bad wheat harvest in France is an element of very great importance in any attempt to form a conclusion with regard to the future prospects of the corn trade of Europe. In 1861 this was proved clearly enough, and the poor French harvest of 1866 has had a good deal to do with the relatively high prices which have prevailed during the past spring and the passing summer.

FREEMASONRY.

PROVINCIAL.

DURHAM.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—WEAR VALLEY LODGE (No. 1,121).—The ordinary meeting of this young lodge was held on the 13th inst., under the presidency of Bro. Geo. Canney, M.D., the S.W., who rules the lodge in consequence of the death of the late W.M., Bro. Joseph Nicholson, P. Prov. J.G.D. There is no P.M., the lodge having only been formed a year since. Bro. John Proud officiated as S.W., and Bro. George Stillman as J.W. There was a large attendance of brethren.

ESSEX.

ROCHFORD.

LODGE OF TRUE FRIENDSHIP. (No. 160).—The annual celebration of the festival of St. John the Baptist took place on Monday the 24th ult. The following were present:—Bros. T. Bennett, Prov. J.G.W., W.M., in the chair; J. Bowles, G. F. Browning, and J. Wiseman, P.M.'s; W. Pacey, S.W.; A. Rodd, J.W.; G. Burgess, P.M.; Sec; W. Pavitt, S.D.; D. B. Grout, acting J.D.; J. Allen, I.G.; and many other brethren. The lodge was opened in due form, and the minutes read and confirmed.

SUFFOLK.

STOWMARKET.

THE FREEMAN MEMORIAL.—At the meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Suffolk, held at Stowmarket last week, it was announced by the Prov. G.M., Bro. Col. Adair, that the memorial to the late Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Bro. the Rev. Frederick William Freeman, M.A., had been completed as ordered at the previous Provincial Grand Lodge. The first part of the memorial consisted in pure raising a Governorship in the Boys' Masonic School, to be called "The Freeman Governorship;" this was presented to the Phoenix Lodge, 516, and the votes conferred are vested in the W.M. The other part of the memorial has just been completed, and consists of a very handsome monument erected over the late brother's grave in the cemetery of Pulham Market, adjoining the churchyard. The work has been done by Mr. J. E. Simpson, Stowmarket, and reflects great credit on him. The monument is constructed of the best Portland stone, rising from the ground in the form of three steps, each 10in. high. On this is placed a perfect ashlar, measuring 2ft. 6in. each way. This again is surmounted by a cross 5ft. high, the transom being 32in., and the section 10in. On the four sides of the ashlar is handsomely carved the Knights Templar jewel, the D. Prov. G.M.'s jewel, the Royal Arch jewel, and the Provincial Grand Chaplain's jewel. The inscriptions are engraved on the edge of the top step, and are as follows:—"In memory of the Rev. Frederick William Freeman, M.A., first perpetual curate of this parish, who died 22nd of March, 1863, aged 51 years. Mark the perfect man and behold the upright, for the end of that man is peace."—Psalm xxxvii. ver. 37. Under the D. Prov. G.M.'s jewel:—"Erected by the Freemasons of Suffolk to the memory of Bro. the Rev. F. W. Freeman, M.A., late D. Prov. G.M. of the province, in fraternal remembrance of his active services to the Craft, and of his personal worth." The monument, standing as it does just in the centre of the cemetery, presents a very imposing appearance.

SURREY.
PROVINCIAL GRAND LODGE.
A Provincial Grand Lodge was held at the Greyhound Hotel, Croydon, presided over by the R.W. the Provincial Grand Master, Bro. Alexander Dobie, on Friday the 5th inst., under the auspices of the East Surrey Lodge of Concord (No. 463), when numerous brethren from the various lodges in the province attended.

CHANNEL ISLANDS.

JERSEY.

MASONIC BANQUET.

A banquet, which will long be remembered among the Masons of Jersey, took place on Wednesday evening, the 10th inst., at the Masonic Temple. It was given to Bro. Dr. John Le Cronier, who, during the last year had filled the office of Deputy Provincial Grand Master, and it was intended as a demonstration of respect to that esteemed brother. About fifty brethren, including nearly two dozen Worshipful Masters and Past Masters of lodges sat down at half-past six to an excellent dinner provided by Bro. W. H. Long. The chair was taken by Bro. H. L. Manuel, who was supported by the Rev. Bro. Truman and Bro. Drayton on the right, and on the left by Bros. Colonel Maydwell and Dr. Kitchener. The vice-chair was filled by Bro. E. D. Le Couteur, supported by Bros. C. J. Hocquard and J. Durell. Amongst the brethren best known in the Province were noticed with much pleasure Bros. A. Schmitt, W. Adams, C. Le Saucy, C. Donaldson, P. W. Le Queno, Philip Binet, J. T. Du Jardin, P. S. ley, jun., Ed. J. Bellingham, C. J. Zenout, Oatley, Benham, Perrot, Jabonneau, R. Binet, &c.; and amongst the visitors Bros. Robin (of Naples) Draper, and others.

AMERICA.

REPORT OF BRO. A. G. GOODALL OF NEW YORK.
TO THE SUPREME COUNCIL OF THE ANCIENT AND ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE, NORTHERN JURISDICTION, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.
Most of the members of Grand Lodge of the Supreme Council, and members holding under the respective jurisdiction, will remember with pleasure the visits paid by Bro. Goodall to the various lodges, chapters, &c., in this country, in his official or semi-official capacity as representative of American Masonic bodies. Upon his return to New York at the end of last year, he reported officially the result of his Masonic tour.

UNITED STATES OF PANAMA.

On my arrival at Panama I was informed that no lodge was then working in that ancient and historical city. The Grand Orient of New Granada, or United States of Columbia, is located at Cartagena, on the Atlantic side, but the civil wars which had for years past so seriously disturbed the peace and prosperity of that country, have had a corresponding injurious influence upon the Order, and prevented its advancement.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY WIDOWS AND ORPHANS' FUND.

The twelfth annual fête in aid of the funds of the above admirable institution was held on Tuesday, the 23rd instant, at Enfield Park, about four miles west of Reading, adjacent to Theale Station, on the Company's line—and being the seat of Richard Benyon, Esq., M.P., who generously placed his magnificent grounds at the disposal of the Committee of the Society in furtherance of their benevolent objects, and this, too, not for the first time, as in 1862 that gentleman performed a similar act of kindness—and one which appears to be highly appreciated, judging from the large number of visitors who attended on the present occasion—amounting to some eight or nine thousand persons from all parts of the extensive district intersected by the Company's line. The beautiful park and grounds of Enfield, consisting of many broad acres, are celebrated as one of the finest estates in the county of Berks, and is rich in historical associations, prominent among which we note that Good Queen Bess was one of the many of its former distinguished residents or guests; it was here, so far back as before the Conquest, that King Ethelred gained a great victory over the Danish invaders. So great was the slaughter and the numbers buried so large, that to this day a neighbouring lane is called "Dead Man's-lane," in reference to the tradition. The Great Western Railway directors, with the kindness that invariably animates them whenever the interest of their staff is concerned, granted the use of special trains from various parts, which, of course, materially contributed to swell the large number of visitors who were present, and but for the threatening appearance of the clouds at early morn in some districts, this number would have been largely increased. Happily for those who defied the pluvial god the day turned out beautifully fine, save and except one or two slight showers, which, however, in no way served to damp the gaiety and good spirits of the pleasure-seekers, for whom ample occupation was provided by the indefatigable exertions of the fête committee.

There was dancing on nature's carpet to Matthews' quadrille band, the dancing being under the direction of that able M.C., Mr. Bareham, a cricket match between eleven of Paddington and eleven of Newbury, archery, Aunt Sally, quoits, a magic post office, and last, though not least, an *al fresco* concert, devoted entirely to the Comic music, supported by the following eminent artists—viz., the Great Vance, Jolly Nash, G. Leybourne, W. S. Critchfield, Paddy Fannin, Mrs. F. Phillips, Miss Lizzie Pearce, Little Levita, and Jessie Nina. With such a formidable array of comic talent it is scarcely necessary to say every one was delighted, and certainly not the less with each and all of the ladies and gentlemen vying with one another in doing their utmost to promote the success of their share in the day's proceedings.

Mr. Vance proved what a "Jolly Dog" he was. Jolly Nash laughed his songs as no other man can laugh, and set all his hearers off in sympathetic roars, and he finished by showing them how he could "tootle, tootle, tootle" on the cornet. Mr. Leybourne introduced "Champagne Charley" and "Danced like a Fairy." Mr. Critchfield gave some of his popular impersonations. Mrs. Phillips and Miss Lizzie Pearce gave some of their most amusing serio-comic effusions; and in fact all were equally happy in their efforts to amuse the large audience that patronized them.

We should not omit to notice the great exertions of Mr. Atkins, an old officer of the Great Western Railway, and an active member of the fête committee. On this gentleman's shoulders devolved a large share of the responsibility, and well indeed did he discharge the duties undertaken by him, by which the success of the day's proceedings was so largely contributed to, and brought to a pleasant close, and we have no doubt the funds of the Society will be greatly benefited by the result.

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